The New York Times
THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Because of New Year's day delays, the *New York Times* Week in Review did not arrive. It is expected to appear with tomorrow's *Post*.

Monday, January 2, 1984

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Israel wants Lebanese Army to control more of Beirut

By DAVID LANDAU
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Israel is urging the Lebanese government to send its army into additional areas of Beirut not currently under its control.

If it does not do so soon, a senior defence source said yesterday, the Americans will not stay in Beirut much longer and the outlook for the Jemayel government will be bleak.

A success for the Lebanese Army in Beirut, the source explained, would make it easier for President Ronald Reagan to defend the continued presence of U.S. Marines there, in the face of mounting congressional and public opposition. But the failure of the Lebanese Army to take over new areas of Beirut, or further serious losses to the Marines, would quickly bring Reagan to decide on their withdrawal.

Expanding its grip on Beirut should be a key goal of the Lebanese Army, the source said, a goal which both the U.S. and Israel support in the context of the Lebanese Army's progressive widening of the government's control of the country. The U.S. is training and equipping the Lebanese for precisely this purpose.

The Lebanese Army's target areas should be Beirut, then the Shouf, then the Beirut-Sidon coastal highway, and eventually the area of South Lebanon held by Israel. In this way, the source said, the Jemayel government would extend its writ to all parts of the country not occupied by the Syrians.

But, given the present condition of the Beirut government "which doesn't look too good," the source said, "we can't be too optimistic" that the Lebanese Army will achieve these goals in the near future.

He said that in Washington there is gratification at the U.S. Navy's vital role in blocking the advance of Syrian-surrogate forces on Beirut by way of Suk al-Gharb. But, on the other hand, there is growing concern — even in circles not opposed in principle to a U.S. military role — over the Marines' exposed position and seemingly ill-defined role in Beirut.

Asked how Israel would react to being "left alone" if and when the Marines and the other units of the Multi National Force were withdrawn from Beirut, the source made it clear that the IDF would

(Continued on Page 7)

Histadrut refuses package

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Senior Histadrut sources yesterday expressed willingness to consider *ad hoc* agreements with the government in an attempt to improve the economy. But they were adamant in refusing to join the Likud-led administration in an all-encompassing package deal and they said they totally rejected a wage freeze.

A senior aide to Secretary-General Yeroham Meshel told *The Jerusalem Post* last night that the labour federation would accept "with open arms" a suggestion to cooperate in attempts to curb inflation and prevent unemployment. These were the issues suggested in

(Continued on Page 7)

Budget plan accepted; austerity axe yet to fall

By AVI TEMKIN
and ASHER WALLFISH
Jerusalem Post Reporters

The cabinet yesterday approved the budget framework totalling IS1,443 billion for fiscal 1984-85 presented by Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad — essentially the same amount in real terms as the present budget.

It also ruled that Cohen-Orgad start immediate negotiations with the Histadrut on a possible package deal.

The cabinet also insisted that the finance minister present a detailed document spelling out the Treasury's overall policy.

The Ministerial Economic Committee will now draft a detailed budget and set up a small subcommittee to review different proposals.

Although Cohen-Orgad swung the majority of the cabinet behind him over the total figure, there was some creaking at the joints when Social Affairs Minister Aharon Uzan voted against and three other ministers did not participate in the vote: Deputy Premier David Levy, Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i and Agriculture Minister Pesah Grupper.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir appealed to all his colleagues to fall into line behind the majority decision, because the worried public was looking to a strong and convincing lead from the government. He said that even those ministers who could not, or would not, agree with the decision on the overall budget figure should keep their reservations within the cabinet room and should be ready to defend the decision of the majority in their public utterances.

Treasury officials asserted yesterday that Cohen-Orgad hilself had last week proposed that an effort be made to arrive at an agreement with the Histadrut and that the detailed document be worked out. But some ministers said yesterday that the finance minister's position and authority had been seriously weakened by Levy and Moda'i.

Levy said the government should take great care to uphold all its agreements with the Histadrut and minimize tensions with the labour federation to the utmost. He warned that the Treasury could all too easily overlook the problem of generating more unemployment than the social fabric could cope with. Levy said the government must avoid "oversimplification" in its application of the belt-tightening programme, lest it cause suffering.

The cabinet thus decided that the Treasury will initiate immediate negotiations with "elements in the economy to find ways to avoid unemployment and halt inflation." This was widely interpreted as a command to the Treasury to enter into negotiations with the Histadrut on a package deal on prices and wages.

The decision followed Levy's sharp attack on Cohen-Orgad for his failure to reach an agreement with the labour federation. The Finance Ministry later said that Cohen-Orgad had proposed such contacts with the Histadrut. What the ministry did not say was that in the document Cohen-Orgad presented on Friday these talks would start only in the early spring after budget cuts have already been approved and a start made on reducing the number of civil servants.

Health Minister Eliezer Shostak said the public could not possibly wait another three months till it knew what would happen to the economy in general and to citizens in particular after April 1. Shostak said it was up to the finance minister to remove the doubts and the uncertainties which could generate erratic economic behaviour calculated to impede the Treasury's own programmes.

Cohen-Orgad said he was ready to make the necessary public statements to remove the doubts and the uncertainties.

Shostak also led a group of ministers who told Cohen-Orgad that this year the political and social

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

Awali crossing reopened

By MENAHEM HOROWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

METULLA. — The IDF will reopen the bridges on the Awali River to southbound traffic this morning. For the past three days, Israel Defence Forces have barred Lebanese vehicles from crossing into Southern Lebanon, following a number of terrorist attacks in the Sidon region.

The IDF allows civilian traffic to cross the Awali at three bridges. Additional crossing points are likely to be opened in the coming days to facilitate the flow of civilian traffic and to speed up security checks.

In Nabatiya yesterday morning, a remote-controlled bomb was detonated at the side of a road as an IDF patrol passed. Three local residents were wounded, but no soldiers were hurt. A number of Lebanese cars parked near the site were damaged.

Another explosive device weighing some 20 kilograms was safely dismantled seven kilometres south of Tyre. The device was found and dismantled by IDF sappers.

Will there be life after overdraft?

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN
Post Finance Reporter

As of yesterday, new bank interest rate schedules have come into effect and interest charges will now be debited monthly, rather than every three months.

The debiting of interest rate charges for the past three months, which was to be done by the banks today, will not be charged until January 15.

The new monthly interest rates are 12.5 per cent on the approved overdraft and 16.5 per cent on amounts exceeding this.

A 12.5 per cent monthly interest charge means an annual rate of 411 per cent, while a 16.5 per cent monthly rate amounts to an annual rate of 525 per cent.

At the new rates, an account which is in debit at the outset of 1984 in the amount of IS20,000, of which IS10,000 represents the approved part of the overdraft, will have escalated to an overdraft of IS103,600 by the end of the year, if left untouched.

The above rates have been termed "effective," since they will be adjusted monthly on the basis of the cost-of-living index for the preceding month.

The new interest rate structure and its accelerated terms of payment will definitely put a crimp in the lifestyle of the average citizen. Those used to having an overdraft will soon realize that it no longer pays to do so, and will have no alternative but to convert part of their savings to cover the overdraft.

If the individual runs out of savings, but has a steady job, he or she could turn to the employer and request a personal loan. One observer has suggested that, should such a situation become common, it could unleash a wave of labour unrest and strikes.

Mortgage holders may find themselves unable to keep up payments within the next few months, which may lead either to a default of the mortgage or result in a temporary moratorium on their repayments. If such a situation evolves, it would not be the first time in the country's history. A similar situation occurred in the late 1950s.

The country's larger corporations have prepared themselves for the new interest rates and, according to one bank manager, their overdrafts were covered prior to the end of the year. "There is no financial instrument which provides a higher yield than the level of interest rates and, therefore, it was not surprising that the large clients made arrangements for covering their overdrafts."

Avi Temkin adds:

The Bank of Israel is considering the possibility of allowing banks to pay interest on current accounts, although not for the entire balance. The central bank is trying to shorten the minimal time of deposit in short-term accounts and for certificates of deposit from two weeks to one.

The bank announced these plans *yesterday at a meeting held by* Governor Moshe Mandelbaum and banks examiner Galia Maor with the chairman of the Histadrut's Consumer Protection Authority, Nuzhat Katzav.

Mandelbaum repeated that the bank would prevent "unreasonable increases" by the banks in the prices they charge the public for services. He also stressed that the central bank would continue its efforts to narrow the gap between interest rates on credit and deposits.

On the labour sanctions front:

Public barred in Foreign Ministry action

Jerusalem Post Staff

The Foreign Ministry today will shut its doors to all outsiders, including foreign diplomats, as workers in various government ministries and elsewhere continue their sanctions to back their wage demands.

In the first stage of its programme of sanctions designed to lead to a total shutdown of the Foreign Ministry within a fortnight, the staff committee told an emergency general meeting yesterday that the sympathy shown by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who is also Foreign Minister, and Director-General David Kimche for the staff's longstanding demand for "special status" had failed to make any impression on the Finance Ministry and the Civil Service Commission.

Ministry staffers want the same pay and conditions as those prevailing in the Mossad intelligence agency and other specialized agencies working abroad.

Ministry sources said yesterday their sanctions will hurt when they close down communications between Jerusalem and embassies and consulates abroad.

In the Interior Ministry, some 850 workers yesterday refused to issue passports, identity cards and other documents. Nor would they answer phones or send mail in their battle for higher pay.

However, a ministry spokesman noted that at each office there was a sign telling people what to do in cases of emergencies, where exceptions are made.

The Defence Ministry workers yesterday refused to clear goods which arrived at Israeli ports for the various ministries, would not honour bills of more than IS3m. and *would not open tenders.*

The strikers' leader, Haim Uman, told *The Jerusalem Post* the ministry clears goods at the ports for all ministries and sends customs fees to the Treasury. Now they will not forward the money either, he said.

Meanwhile, the staff committee complained that the ministry's Director-General Menahem Meron ordered department heads to report the identities of "troublemakers."

However, representatives of the 3,500 income tax and property tax workers this morning will consider easing some of their sanctions.

Menahem Levin, the Civil Servants Union official handling their affairs, said the decision to lift some sanctions is expected as a result of yesterday's meeting with Civil Service Commissioner Avraham Natan.

The workers have been opening offices late and refusing to go out for investigations.

The workers presented their demands yesterday and the commissioner promised an answer by this *weekend, Natan told The Post.*

Today's threatened closure of day-care centres run by WIZO and Na'amat has been postponed, apparently because the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs has found a way to pay these organizations directly through the Treasury.

The sanctions imposed for the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

Mubarak aide taking message to Hussein

Post Mideast Affairs Reporter
and agencies

One of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's top aides, Dr. Osama al-Baz, is due to arrive in Amman today with a message from Mubarak for Jordan's King Hussein.

Al-Baz is due to go on to Baghdad from Amman with another message from the Egyptian leader to Iraqi president Saddam Hussein.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry said the messages dealt with Cairo's position on the latest developments in the region.

Egypt has developed a wide range of political, cultural and economic ties with both Iraq and Jordan since these two countries cut diplomatic relations with Cairo after its peace treaty with Israel.

It has developed equally strong ties with Saudi Arabia, and a Foreign Ministry spokesman in Cairo announced yesterday that Saudi Prince Talal Ibn Abdul Aziz is due to meet Mubarak when he arrives in Egypt for a five-day visit starting next Saturday. Talal's visit, described as the first by a senior member of the Saudi royal family, comes in response to an invitation from Mubarak, and the date was fixed during recent contacts between Cairo and Riyadh.

Meanwhile, Mubarak told a visiting U.S. congressional delegation yesterday that Washington should "make peace" with ths PLO in order to increase the prospects for Middle East peace. The Egyptian president said his recent meeting with PLO chief Yasser Arafat was necessary to bring about progress to a peace agreement that would include the recognition of the Palestinian people and their rights.

Attacks on IDF patrols in W. Bank

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Central Nablus was placed under curfew yesterday morning after a violent demonstration inside the old market and a petrol bomb attack on an IDF foot patrol passing through the city's main square.

Shortly afterwards, another patrol near the Balata refugee camp on the southern outskirts of Nablus was also attacked by a petrol bomb. No injuries or damage were reported, and troops were searching the area last night.

Another petrol bomb attack was reported from the Gebalya refugee camp in the Gaza Strip.

A privately-owned Israeli bus carrying labourers was attacked early yesterday morning in the village of Kabatya in the Nablus area. The bus was damaged slightly but there were no injuries.

Yesterday marked the 19th anniversary of the founding of the PLO.

Gaza roadside blast

GAZA (Itim). — A bomb that exploded at the side of the road on Saturday afternoon as an Israel Defence Forces vehicle passed caused no injuries or damage.

Security forces rushed to the area near the Nusirat refugee camp to investigate, but there were no reports of arrests. It is the first time in about two years that this type of bombing attempt has occurred in the Gaza Strip.

Fuel prices increase by 15%

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Fuel prices went up at midnight last night by 15 per cent, in accordance with the policy of the Treasury and the Energy Ministry to adjust prices to the monthly devaluation rate.

The Energy Ministry this week will again submit its request to the Knesset Finance Committee to raise the price of electricity by 18 per cent, the ministry spokesman said. This is intended to cover the previous fuel price increase of a month ago.

Prices released by the ministry are:

Fuel	New Price IS	Old Price IS
91 octane petrol (litre)	65.00	57.00
96 octane petrol (litre)	76.00	66.00
Diesel fuel (litre)	52.10	45.30
Kerosene (litre)	54.30	47.20
Cooking gas (12-kg. canister) without VAT	903.48	785.22
Heavy oil for electricity (ton) without VAT	19,463.00	16,924.00
Heavy oil for industry (ton)	21,198.00	18,433.00

Haddad hospitalized, condition 'stable'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Major Sa'ad Haddad, leader of the Lebanese forces in Southern Lebanon, was admitted to Rambam Hospital here at 1 a.m. *yesterday and was last night* reported in "stable" condition.

Haddad, who is 46, was flown to the hospital by helicopter, reportedly in very poor condition. He is rumoured to be suffering from cancer.

Officially, he was admitted for treatment of "fatigue and exhaustion," the same causes given by the hospital during his previous stays there. The last was in October, *when he was released after a week* and advised to take a long rest.

Deputy hospital director, Dr. Zvi Ben-Ishai, said last night that Haddad was fully conscious and receiving "all the treatment necessary" in the internal medicine department. His wife and brother are at his bedside.

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$50 million withdrawn from Patam

Post Economic Reporter

Rumours of imminent restrictions on foreign currency linked deposits (Patam) led the public to withdraw more than $50 million in the last two weeks.

Sources at the Bank of Israel said yesterday that the large decrease in the Patam accounts resulted in a corresponding increase in short-term deposits by the public. The sources added that the total figure on withdrawals from Patam accounts are not yet available, but could be as high as $70 million.

Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad again denied yesterday that any such restrictions are being planned by the Treasury, or that any other "drastic measures" are *in the* works.

Nigeria military leader warns corrupt officials

LONDON (AP). — Nigeria's new military leader yesterday assailed the "two evils" of corruption and lack of discipline under ousted president Shehu Shagari and said corrupt officials would be prosecuted.

Maj. Gen. Mohammed Buhari, who proclaimed himself the new head of the African oil-producing nation more than 12 hours after a coup was announced Saturday by an army brigadier, said the economy would be given new impetus to avert financial disaster.

Buhari, 41, a former military governor and one-time petroleum minister, said on state-run Lagos Radio that he had taken over "to save this nation from imminent collapse."

Buhari made no mention of the fate of Shagari. But diplomatic sources in Paris said the 58-year-old civilian leader, who was re-elected in August to a second four-year term, had been arrested with most of his top aides.

There were no reports of bloodshed and the semi-official News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) said Saturday night that Lagos, the country's main city, was calm.

NAN reported that vice-president Alex Ekwueme and House of Representatives Speaker Benjamin Chaha were seized from their official residences in pre-dawn raids Saturday by truckloads of armed troops.

Lagos Radio, monitored here, rebroadcast Buhari's speech at half-


Gen. Mohammed Buhari (UPI)

(Continued on Page 3)



The weather at major Swissair destinations

1.1.1984

	MIN C	MIN F	MAX C	MAX F	
AMSTERDAM	5	41	8	46	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	0	32	9	48	Cloudy
BUENOS AIRES	20	68	24	75	Rain
CHICAGO	-14	7	-6	21	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	6	43	7	45	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	3	37	7	45	Cloudy
GENEVA	-2	28	9	48	Clear
HELSINKI	-4	25	0	32	Cloudy
HONG KONG	10	50	13	55	Clear
JOHANNESBURG	15	59	24	75	Clear
LISBON	8	43	15	59	Cloudy
LONDON	8	46	11	52	Cloudy
MADRID	1	34	10	50	Clear
MONTREAL	-10	14	-5	23	Cloudy
NEW YORK	13	9	0	32	Clear
OSLO	3	37	4	39	Clear
PARIS	4	39	8	46	Cloudy
RIO DE JANEIRO	21	70	37	88	Clear
SAO PAULO	18	66	28	82	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	2	35	5	41	Cloudy
TOKYO	1	34	10	50	Clear
TORONTO	17	1	-7	18	Cloudy
VIENNA	6	43	7	45	Clear
ZURICH	2	28	9	48	Clear

* For the latest weather conditions, contact Swissair

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to cloudy, with heavy rain in the North and central areas.

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Max
Jerusalem	92	5—10	10
Golan	92	6—10	10
Nahariya	73	8—16	16
Safad	95	7— 9	8
Haifa Port	77	13—18	16
Tiberias	71	11—15	16
Nazareth	90	8—12	11
Afula	93	5—16	16
Shomron	95	8—13	12
Tel Aviv	78	4—16	16
B-G Airport	93	10—16	16
Jericho	77	8—17	17
Gaza	76	10—18	18
Beersheba	56	6—17	17
Eilat	30	8—22	22

Marriage

Hana Reh-Elkin and Asher Sky, married in Washington.

ARRIVALS

Dr. George S. Wise, chancellor of Tel Aviv University, and Mrs. Wise, yesterday in Tel Aviv

Michael Assaf dies, 87

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Michael Assaf, the dean of journalists in this country, died yesterday evening at 87 in Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv. Two weeks ago, he was hurt when a private car struck him down on a pedestrian crossing. Assaf willed his body to science.

Assaf was head of the Israel Journalists Association for many years, and was a member of the editorial staff of the *Davar* daily newspaper. He was among the first commentators on Arab affairs here.

PUBLIC BARRED

(Continued from Page One)

last several weeks by the ministry staff have prevented payments to ministry institutions or to organizations whose welfare activities are subsidized by the ministry.

The ministry staff reacted to the attempt to bypass the paralyzed ministry payments department by threatening to halt the activity of a committee set up to exempt certain ministry institutions, such as those for the retarded, from the sanctions.

The ministry staff will meet this week prior to voting on whether to stage a full strike.

Labour and Social Affairs Minister Aharon Uzan, who had planned to bring the dispute before the cabinet yesterday, said it would be taken up by the Ministerial Economic Committee tomorrow.

Electric Corporation employees in the southern district yesterday started industrial action.

Five departments closed when their staffs went home following a mass meeting, and some offices were closed to the public. However, the strikers said they had no intention of disrupting the electricity supply.

They want compensation for the erosion in wages and are protesting the cutting of permitted overtime and the laying off of temporary staff.

Six detainees die in W. Berlin fire

BERLIN (AP). — Fire raged through an overcrowded West Berlin detention centre yesterday, killing six foreigners awaiting deportation in what some officials believe was a suicide attempt.

Rescuers led the other 36 men occupying the four-cell Lichterfelde detention centre to safety, authorities said. One inmate was reported hospitalized in serious condition.

Police said the dead included three men from Sri Lanka, one Lebanese, one Tunisian and one man of undetermined nationality. The nationality of the hospitalized inmate also was unknown.

Police said damage was confined to two cells. The building also houses various police offices.

West Berlin's assistant police president Martin Lippok told a news conference that police complaints about overcrowding at the centre had convinced the city to earmark $148,000 for a new wing for deportees at another prison this year.

But Lippok dismissed a preliminary report by the fire department suggesting that suicide could have been the motive behind the blaze.

Economic ministers to air new fees in hospitals

Jerusalem Post Staff

The Committee of Ministers for Economic Affairs will tomorrow discuss the Health Ministry's introduction of the IS700 emergency ward fee, at the request of Social Affairs Minister Aharon Uzan with the support of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

At yesterday's weekly cabinet meeting, Uzan sought to have the new fee debated, charging that Health Minister Eliezer Shostak had no right to impose it arbitrarily.

However, it was too late for a proper discussion, so Shamir said that Uzan's request was weighty enough to be debated without delay. Shamir said, however, the cabinet could not revoke Shostak's decision pending the committee's discussion.

While the Health Ministry last Friday sent instructions to all the hospitals in the country on collecting the new fees, only some government hospitals and several public hospitals, such as Hadassah in Jerusalem, have actually started taking money.

Kupat Holim Clalit has so far resisted collecting the fees in its hospital system. But a meeting last night between senior Health Ministry officials and Kupat Holim chairman Prof. Haim Doron was "constructive and to the point," *The Jerusalem Post* has learned. Another meeting on the issue is scheduled to be held today.

The first day of collecting the emergency room fee and the IS100 fee for those visiting outpatient departments in government hospitals went off smoothly, with some details needing to be ironed out, according to Itim reports from around the country. The Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer collected the fees, but patients who did not have the money were not turned away.

At the Wolfson Hospital in Holon, hospital director Dr. Moshe Cordova said the fees had not been collected because the staff has not been organized to do the job efficiently. He said that by Wednesday, everything would run smoothly.

In Ashkelon, some of the patients returned home because they refused to pay. No one was turned away for lack of money, but it is learned that the results of the examinations will not be made available to a patient until he pays.

In Nahariya, too, the government hospital did not collect the fees. Hospital director Dr. Elitzur Hazani told Itim he does not have the manpower to collect the money, and he does not know when he will get it.



Placards reading "Likud: Another step and the nation is on welfare" and "The street gangs are sinking in debt" left outside a social welfare office in Jerusalem yesterday after police broke up attempts by slum neighbourhood activists to blockade several offices in the city in a protest against the government's economic policies. (Eliahu Harari)

Beirut daily: Jumblatt willing to meet Jemayel

Post Mideast Affairs Reporter and agencies

Druse leader Walid Jumblatt has contacted Lebanese President Amin Jemayel to discuss the possibility of an early meeting, the well-informed Beirut daily *an-Nahar* reported yesterday.

The newspaper report follows a meeting in Amman late last week between Jumblatt and two Lebanese emissaries — the ambassador to Switzerland, Johnny Abdo, and the Lebanese Army intelligence chief, Col. Simon Kassis.

According to informed sources in Beirut, Abdo and Kassis are working on the final details of a plan to consolidate the existing truce and to separate Druse, Shi'ite and Christian combatants in and around Beirut.

According to these sources, a meeting is expected to be held in Damascus this week at which the plan will be discussed.

Under the plan the army, which is pledged to extend its area of authority at every opportunity, would play a greater role in areas south of the capital.

Over Christmas the army took control of two positions evacuated by French troops in the four-nation peace force in Beirut. Jemayel has said he hopes the Lebanese can replace the multinational troops *completely "in the near future."*

In South Lebanon too, local people have been calling for Lebanese troops to replace the Israelis.

The latest moves indicate some progress towards ending hostilities in Lebanon — an essential first step to any possible resumption of the stalled national reconciliation talks in Geneva.

In his New Year's address to his staff yesterday, Jemayel reflected the growing optimism by holding out the hope that Lebanon is about to embark on "many important steps to bring back stability and security to our country."

Meanwhile, Italian Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini has formally notified Jemayel that Italy will replace its current contingent of 2,100 reservists with 1,000 army regulars, state-run Beirut Radio reported.

Spadolini, who met with Jemayel on Friday night, assured the president that the cut would not affect Italy's commitment to contribute to the force "until the Lebanon problem is solved," the radio said.

In Rome, Defence Ministry officials said they received no official confirmation of Spadolini's reported statement.

BUDGET PLAN

(Continued from Page One)

implications of the budget cuts were so delicate and problematic that they insisted on being personally involved in all significant cuts. They said that discussions on the cuts between Treasury officials and their own officials should be kept to the minimum.

Shostak said: "The moment we get down to brass tacks I want all the civil servants out of the room. They are not going to do any deciding for me this year. It's too important."

Moda'i had proposed that instead of approving a budget framework, the cabinet should decide on a series of budget targets. But this proposal was not accepted. Moda'i also proposed that a small number of ministers should be charged with the preparation of the budget.

The ministerial committee is due to meet in the middle of the week, possibly tomorrow, to start its deliberations. At the same time, the Treasury will start preparing a document detailing its policies regarding the budget, the capital market and currency questions.

Industry and Commerce Minister Gideon Patt said that the Treasury must take great care not to curb regular bank credits in such a manner that a grey or a black credit market was created.

He said the finance minister must give the public another speedy and convincing assurance that Patam foreign currency deposits would remain on the same terms as at present.

Uzan said he was voting against the overall budget figure because he did not want his hands to be tied later on, in the Ministers' Committee, when proposals for cuts in his ministry might be raised which he could not possibly accept. By then, his objections would be gagged, with the reminder that he had already accepted the overall figure.

Uzan complained that the erosion in the low-income sectors had to be corrected at once, with significant financial aid to them. He warned that the new Cohen-Orgad policy had piled fresh damage on the damage caused by his predecessors. Children's allowances today were worth only half of the rate fixed for them, in real money terms, in 1975 by the Ben-Shahar income tax reform committee.

He said that reduction in the social services provided by the state was an unacceptable solution. The services must continue, but the necessary funds must come from the higher income groups, Uzan said.

Uzan told *The Jerusalem Post* last night: "A State budget is an ideological instrument for determining what sort of society we want to maintain. There's no reason why the rich should not increase their wealth in the course of their economic pursuits, but that doesn't mean the Treasury's policy should enable the rich to get richer while forcing still greater poverty on the poor."

Science and Development Minister Yuval Ne'eman demanded that the prime minister issue a public statement denying that settlement in the areas would be frozen. "I won't stick around if such a clarification isn't forthcoming," Ne'eman said. "Nor will I," retorted Shamir.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens told newsmen yesterday there was "no confrontation and no crisis" between him and his close Likud-Herut ally, Cohen-Orgad. He said media reports to this effect had been inaccurate and sensationalist.

Despite this profession of harmony, however, Defence Ministry sources continued to argue vigorously against Cohen-Orgad's demand for a 10 per cent slashing of local defence expenditure. They said this would impose an unacceptable sapping of the army's strength — especially when a relatively high proportion of expenditure went on the deployment in Lebanon.

The sources said that once Arens translates the proposed cuts into detailed, practical terms, "there will not be much of a gap in outlook between him and the other cabinet measures. The defence of the realm, after all, is a responsibility shared by all the ministers," they said.

Whatever plans the Treasury may have had for freezing settlements in the areas became academic yesterday after Shamir told the cabinet that the government will not make such a freeze.

Treasury sources said the Finance Ministry would present the ministries with its total budget allotment and explain that they must fix their own priorities.

Kalkilya man held in Dubi murder

NETANYA (Itim). — A Kalkilya resident, Nazel Salah, has been detained by order of the Netanya Magistrates Court on suspicion of connection with the murder of Orly Dubi, 19, of Netanya in November.

Salah, 23, was arrested in the middle of last week after a man told police that at 10:30 p.m. on November 24, he saw the figure of a woman struggling with several men sitting inside a vehicle parked at the side of the road near Moshav Udim. The witness noted down the licence plate number and reported it to the police who then picked up Salah.

The witness also identified Salah in an identification parade.

Dubi, a soldier, disappeared on the evening of November 15 while on the way home from Haifa. Her body was discovered on December 14 near Netanya, several kilometres north of where the car was parked.

Kessar's nomination will be discussed

Jerusalem Post Staff

MK Avraham Katz-Oz yesterday wrote opposition leader Shimon Peres, asking to discuss the nomination of Histadrut Trades Union Department head Israel Kessar as the Labour Party's candidate for secretary-general of the Histadrut, at this week's meeting of the party executive.

Histadrut Secretary-General Yeroham Meshel concludes his period of office in another year and a half, and he has already picked Kessar as his successor.

BRIEFING. — Seventeen families from South Africa and England, considering immigration and visiting Israel within the framework of the "Tnuat Aliya" organization, were briefed on the fast-changing Israel economy last week.

Treasury promises to update income tax credits today

By AVI TEMKIN and JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporters

The Treasury yesterday announced that today it would adjust the income tax credit points and the child allowances by 17.9 per cent, as agreed upon with the Histadrut Labour Federation last month.

The adjustment was supposed to take place on December 25, coinciding with the payment of the 17.9 per cent advance on the January cost of living allowance. But it was not executed due to what the Treasury's spokesman described as a "misunderstanding."

The Treasury yesterday said that Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad had instructed ministry Director-General Emmanuel Sharon to update the credit points and allowances.

Complaints about the Treasury's failure to act were heard in the cabinet meeting yesterday, when Deputy Prime Minister David Levy said angrily that the Treasury did *not respect* signed agreements and had thereby undermined its credibility.

The Histadrut had been complaining for a week that the government failed to honour the undertaking made in a letter signed by the former Treasury director-general Ezra Sadan, which said the minister would "see to it" that the income tax brackets, tax credit points and children allowances are updated.

That undertaking removed the last hurdle to concluding the agreement whereby the C-o-L advance was given. But last week the Treasury updated only the income tax brackets.

Addressing the Histadrut Central Committee yesterday, Secretary-General Yeroham Meshel said the Treasury's conduct "bordered on deceit." The labour federation never imagined that the Finance Ministry would resort to methods which are not acceptable "even in an open-air market," he added.

'Policeman' allegedly kicks woman, assaults neighbour

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — A man who claimed to be a police officer yesterday evening allegedly brutally kicked a resident of Herzliya Pituah who was lying on the floor in a stairway resisting detention. He then demanded information from a neighbour, who insisted the man first produce identification and the "plainclothesman" twisted his arm and kicked him too, *The Jerusalem Post* was told.

The spokesman for the Tel Aviv District police, Adi Gonnen, said last night he was not aware of the incident. He promised a thorough investigation.

Estelle Bornstein of 142 Wingate in Herzliya Pituah told *The Post* the incident occurred at 6:50 p.m. after a long dispute between Nava Milo and another neighbour.

Bornstein said she saw Milo, in her mid-30s, lying on the floor in the stairway as the "plainclothesman" kept kicking her kidneys and crotch. Two other "plainclothesmen" stood nearby, but did not intervene, Bornstein added.

The "officer" then went to Bornstein's door to collect evidence. Her husband, Hyman Bornstein, 70, insisted the man identify himself first — but the "officer" twisted the grey-haired man's hand and kicked him.

The "plainclothesmen" detained Milo. Mrs. Bornstein said the "officer" got into a white unmarked car and told her husband: "I'll be back to get you."

Four die in road accidents

Four persons were killed and 31 persons were injured in four serious road accidents throughout the country yesterday.

At 5:30 in the morning yesterday on the road between the Megiddo junction and Kibbutz Mishmar Haemek, two persons were killed and five were injured — all residents of Kfar Dabouriya — when a truck hit the rear of another truck that was stopped due to a technical problem. The dead are Ziad Haled Maslalah, 19, and Husah Yasser Masalah, 17. Police are investigating the accident.

In an accident yesterday afternoon, 25 people were injured, two of them seriously, in a collision between a bus and a truck in Pardess Hanna.

The southbound truck, driven by a Ramle resident, went through a stop sign and collided with an Egged bus coming from the direction of Tel Aviv. Twenty-three of the passengers on the bus were slightly injured. A five-year-old boy on the bus was seriously injured, as was the driver of the truck.

In Ashdod yesterday, a two-year-old boy, Shai Danoch, of Ashdod was killed and his father Benyamin, 39, was severely injured when their car collided with a truck at the Ashdod junction on the coastal highway.

A resident of East Jerusalem, Abu el-Haji Ahad, 40, was killed yesterday near Shuafat when the car he was driving was hit by a car that had been forced across a traffic divider as a result of a collision with another car. (Itim) (See related story, page 3.)

Blast in Rome near El Al office

ROME (AP). — A bomb that exploded New Year's Eve outside the downtown office of El Al destroyed several windows but injured no one, police said yesterday.

"So far, no group has claimed responsibility for the bombing," the police spokesman said in a telephone interview.

The spokesman said that the bomb consisted of 500 grams of blasting powder material. No arrests were reported.

Outrage over murder of 3 Syrian Jews

Jerusalem Post Staff

The cabinet yesterday expressed "shock and outrage" at the "brutal murder" in Aleppo, Syria, of a pregnant Jewish woman and her two young children.

In a statement read after the weekly meeting, the cabinet appealed to "enlightened opinion" the world over to bring pressure to bear on Syria to allow those Jews who so wish to leave the country.

News of the deaths of Lilly Abadi, 39, and her four-year-old daughter and seven-year-old son reached the Abadi family in New York through a telephone call from Abadi's husband Victor in Aleppo, said Menahem Yedid, head of the Public Council for the Salvation of Jews in Arab Lands.

He said the background for the murders "was undoubtedly the tensions within Syria which always claim Jewish victims because we're the easiest target."

Yedid appealed to the Syrian government to free the estimated 4,500 Syrian Jews who live mostly in Damascus. He said Syrian Jews who go abroad have to leave behind their families and monetary collateral.

An Israel daily reported recently that the Abadis were stabbed to death and their bodies were then shot and abused.

Jerusalem zealots sentenced to prison terms, heavily fined

The Jerusalem Magistrates Court yesterday gave prison terms and heavy fines to eight out of 12 ultra-Orthodox zealots recently convicted of violent acts during a riot last July in Jerusalem's Sabbath Square.

Judge Uzi Sivan called that day of violent protests against archeological excavations in Jerusalem's Old City "one of the blackest and most difficult days to face Jerusalem." Accordingly, he said, "the courts must punish the rioters with all the severity of the law."

Sivan first sentenced Golda Minsberg, convicted of obstructing a policeman in the performance of his duty and attempting to assault him, to a suspended jail term of four months, in effect for three years, and fined her IS75,000. Sivan told her that her conduct "belied the image of the Jewish wife and mother, which we have learned to know and love."

Eliezer Sofer, convicted of stoning policemen, was sentenced to six months in prison, plus one year suspended, and fined IS100,000. Haim Kremer was sentenced to three-and-a-half months in jail, plus six months suspended, and fined IS100,000.

Four others — Nahman Sternfeld, Yitzhak Orlanger, Yohanan Zinwert and Ya'acov Zilber — were sentenced to three-and-a-half months in prison, plus six months suspended, and fined IS75,000 each. Aharon Almanovitz was sentenced to two months in jail, plus six months suspended, and fined IS75,000.

Each of the convicted was required to pay IS10,000 in court costs. The judge also barred them from leaving the country and ordered them to deposit their passports with police. They must each report to a police station once a day until they begin serving their sentences.

Judge Sivan allowed 45 days for appeals to be filed before the sentences must be carried out. He also allowed the convicted to pay their fines in two instalments. Sentence is to be passed on the remaining four next month. (Itim)

Michael Ellan adds:

A spokesman for the ultra-Orthodox Natorei Karta said last night that the community would "*demonstrate in the streets*" against the sentences. Sources in Natorei Karta said the community is considering seeking help from ultra-Orthodox communities abroad in applying pressure to ease the sentences.

The community is most perturbed at the length of the jail terms imposed, said the source, since any sentence over three months must be served in prison, and not on a day-prisoner basis.

נפלה עטרת ראשנו

We announce the passing of

Harav

ZVI KOENIGSBERG זצ"ל

son of Rev Haim Shaul Hacohen Koenigsberg

The funeral took place yesterday.
Shiva at 6/A Mevo Timna, Ramat Eshkol, Jerusalem.

Koenigsberg, Sterman and Shaul families

The unveiling of the tombstone of our beloved father

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The funeral will take place today, Monday, January 2, 1984 at 10.45 a.m. at Kfar Samir Cemetery, Haifa.

Lotte Haas

Tel Aviv planner tells 'The Post':

Ha'aretz Museum didn't get okay for buildings

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The district planning and building committee will take legal action against the Tel Aviv municipality for any illegal building begun in the municipal Ha'aretz Museum during the past year and a half, a member of the committee, Dov Radusher told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

Commenting on *The Post's* report last Friday of massive illegal construction work on museum grounds, Radusher said the district committee has neither approved the construction plans nor issued building permits for them.

Radusher says if the museum has been building without a permit, the committee would demand that it cease and would take legal action against the city.

Some 18 months ago, museum director Rehavam Ze'evi and City Engineer Shmuel Penn presented a proposed master building plan for the museum, Radusher said.

"We agreed that within a short time this plan would be completed and transferred from the local planning and building committee to the district committee for approval," Radusher said. "But since then I have heard nothing of this plan and assumed the city had no funds to finance it."

During the past year and a half, large-scale construction work has been going on at the Ha'aretz Museum. It consists of at least eight new buildings, including an amphitheatre, an entrance complex, two pavillions, a security structure and restrooms. Ths city has budgeted IS600 million for the project.

Asked last week for their comment on these findings, Penn told *The Post* that "as far as he remembers" no building permits were issued. But engineering administration head Yitzhak Caspi said last week he had checked the matter and found the construction was licensed. Ze'evi and his spokeswoman have refused to talk to *The Post*.

It was learned that Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat visited the museum grounds on Friday with Ze'evi.

MK Mordechai Virshubski (Shinui) told *The Post* he will demand that construction at the museum be halted if it is illegal.

Virshubski, who is a member of the city council opposition, will demand an explanation from Lahat at the council's meeting next week.



Valery Giscard d'Estaing, former president of France (right) and his wife Anne sit in the Israel Museum's French period room, as museum director Martin Weyl describes the gift from the Rothschild family. (Rahamim Israeli)

427 killed, 20,000 injured on the roads in 1983

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Although 1983 witnessed about a 10-per-cent increase in traffic accidents in comparison to 1982, this is not regarded as considerable because there were about 80,000 more cars on the roads.

Moshe Amirav, chairman of the Road Safety Authority, also told a press conference that 1982 had been a low year for traffic accidents. Although there was no research into the reason, he said it was probably due to the war in Lebanon, with fewer drivers on the road and motorists more careful.

The year 1983 saw 427 persons killed in traffic accidents, compared to 385 killed in 1982 and 436 killed in 1981. Before the Road Safety Authority was established four years ago, average annual fatalities totalled 620. Also there were about 40 per cent fewer automobiles on the roads, he said.

Amirav claims that the drop in road accidents during the last four years is unique. He said Israel is 11th out of 19 developed countries in accidents per million kilometres driven.

In 1983 there were 13,900 traffic accidents in which 20,000 persons were injured, about 3,500 of them seriously. Of this, 4,625 were pedestrians. Pedestrians killed totalled 196, or about 46 per cent of the road fatalities.

Amirav said that the forming of a substantial traffic police could further reduce the number of road accidents, as well as enforcing the traffic laws better.

Amirav fears that the authority and road safety projects will have their budgets considerably slashed. This could be a setback in the battle against road accidents, he said.

He proposes that the sums for this purpose can be made available by instituting a specific road safety tax on the purchase of cars, creating toll roads, or adding a 5 per cent road safety tax on the purchase of fuel.

'Good Israelis' help robbed tourists to stay

EILAT (Itim). — A Norwegian couple and their five children, whose car and belongings were stolen shortly after arriving in the country, have decided to remain for the length of their scheduled stay after being helped by a group of friendly Israelis.

Marty Raunolina, 42, his wife Marianne, 40, and their children, ranging in age from one year to 19, were staying at the Ashkelon National Park last week when their minibus was stolen. It contained all their belongings, including some $3,500 in cash, thousands more in travellers' cheques, clothes, their passports and return tickets, and a movie camera worth some $20,000.

The Raunolinas continued to Ein Gedi, intending to visit briefly before returning to Norway. However, when Ein Gedi guest house manager Amihai Elbar heard their story, he immediately decided to organize help and to persuade them to stay.

Eldad offered them a free stay at Ein Gedi, then contacted the United Kibbutz Movement's guest house association. This persuaded the Almog Yam Hotel in Eilat to host the family free for the rest of their stay. An Eilat car-rental firm, EuropaCar, has supplied the Raunolinas with free use of a minibus.

The family has decided to stay until January 30, as planned. The Raunolinas have strong ties with Israel and are on their fifth visit. Marty Raunolina's father has been recognized as a Righteous Gentile for saving Jews from the Nazis.

Plenty of work for jobless in tourism

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The miners from the Timna copper mines, the closure of which sparked off demonstrations in Eilat last week, can find work in the town's hotels, according to the Tourism Ministry.

The ministry spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that some 200 miners, who had trouble finding new jobs, could take special courses training them for hotel work. According to Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir, hundreds of foreign workers employed in hotels in Eilat and at the Dead Sea could be replaced by unemployed Israelis.

The ministry also announced yesterday that it is urgently seeking 2,000 hotel workers for jobs in maintenance, cleaning, waiting on tables, and as receptionists. The greatest need is in Tiberias and Jerusalem. Courses, given in cooperation with the Labour Ministry, are to begin soon for jobs that will become available in March.

A special publicity campaign is being launched to find the workers among demobilized soldiers, immigrants and at labour exchanges. According to the Tourism Ministry, some 25,000 jobs will become available in the hotel business within the next three years.

Pilots suspected of smuggling

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Several pilots of light aircraft have been arrested in the course of a Treasury investigation of suspected smuggling of electronics goods from Cyprus. Treasury officials believe the pilots are part of an extensive smuggling network, operated by three Tel Aviv brothers who were arrested late last week.

Armand, Pinhas and Ya'acov Cohen, all of Bat Yam, yesterday were remanded on suspicion of smuggling and dealing in millions of shekels worth of video cassette recorders and other electronic goods. The Tel Aviv District Court ordered Armand and Ya'acov Cohen held for six days and Pinhas Cohen for three.

Police arrested each of the brothers on separate occasions last week, and seized large quantities of video and other electronic equipment and foreign-made cigarettes. None of the brothers could present valid certification for any of the goods, police said.

Treasury investigators suspect the brothers, each of whom owns an electronics goods stall on Tel Aviv's Rehov Yehuda Halevy, owns either a part or full share of the suspected pilots' planes. The investigators say the suspected smuggling network is widespread and has been bringing contraband from Cyprus frequently and for a long time.



Chief of Staff Rav-Aluf Moshe Levy yesterday speaks to soldiers during a training exercise on the Golan Heights. (IDF photo)

Architect jailed for fraud and forgery

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Architect Avraham Ziv-Av, 46, of Ramat Aviv was yesterday sent to jail for three months, given a 15-month suspended sentence and fined IS20,000 for forging a document in order to commit fraud and for submitting a false statement to the authorities.

According to the charge sheet, Ziv-Av designed a dwelling in 1976 for one Yoel Shabtai to be built in Hofit, near Kfar Witkin. But the Israel Lands Authority did not approve the building request, because Shabtai refused to meet its land rental conditions.

Ziv-Av was found guilty of then going to the ILA offices in Derech Petah Tikva, Tel Aviv, and deceitfully getting from a clerk the rubber stamp used in approving building plans. He stamped the building plans for Shabtai's house and forged the signature of the clerk, Ruth Cahana. In addition, he had a rubber stamp company make him a copy of the "ILA Tel Aviv and Central District" stamp which he affixed to the plans.

In January 1977, Ziv-Av submitted these building plans with the faked approvals to the responsible authority who issued a building licence in February.

Boy held for vandalism in school

REHOVOT (Itim). — A 13-year-old schoolboy in Rehovot has confessed to heading a gang of pupils who committed acts of vandalism on the premises of the junior high school during the past three weekends, police reported yesterday. The boy has been arrested and is to be brought before a juvenile court magistrate within the next 48 hours.

Three weeks ago, the boys destroyed a row of young trees planted outside the school and broke their branches. Two weeks ago, they broke into the school laboratory and destroyed equipment said valued at tens of thousands of shekels. Last Saturday, they smashed 40 windowpanes in the school, attempted to set afire the nurse's room where curtains were burned and bookshelves scorched.

Explaining what he had done, the boy said: "I hate the school. The teacher tries to shame me by asking me hard questions so that the children will laugh at me. At home, my mother shouts at me all the time." Several months ago, the boy ran away from home and was found in Eilat after a day's search.

Accused murderers barred from conferring

TEL AVIV (Itim). — The district court yesterday rejected a request by the defence attorneys of accused murderers Herzl Avitan and Ya'acov Shemesh to meet with their clients together before presenting their case.

Avitan and Shemesh are on trial for the murders of Ramle detention centre warden Ronnie Nitzan in December 1981 and Keren Or jewelry factory guard David Oshri in January 1982. Ths case for the defence was due to be heard yesterday morning, but was postponed due to their attorneys' request.

Tel Aviv District Court Judges Yehoshua Gross, Moshe Goldberg and Yosef Hasson denied the request, ruling that the court has no authority to force the Ramle Prison administration to enable both accused and their attorneys to meet together.

The request was firmly opposed by district attorney Penina Dvorin, who argued that it was unheard of that witnesses would seek to coordinate their testimony in advance. She expressed amazement that defence attorneys David Yiftah and Uriel Einav would make such a request.

3 Bar-Ilan students split journalism award

TEL AVIV (Itim). — The Foreign Press Association has awarded its first scholarship honouring the late correspondent Dial Torgerson to three journalism students at Bar Ilan University, said association president Gideon Bareli.

Torgerson, who was killed in June at the age of 55 in a guerrilla ambush along the Honduras-Nicaragua border, was *The Los Angeles Times* correspondent in Israel until January, 1981.

The award, presented in a recent ceremony at the university, was divided among three students: Tamar Hermon, Shmuel Elgrabbi and Avraham Ben-Dayan. Norman Kempster, the current *Los Angeles Times* correspondent in Israel, and Lazar Biernako, representing the association, took part in the ceremony.

Another Arab may be beatified

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Only a few months after the beatification in Rome of a local Arab, the Vatican is considering the case of another Palestinian.

Brother Simon Scrugi, a Salesian friar, was born in Nazareth in 1878 and died in 1943 at the monastery of Beit Gemal, near Beit Shemesh, where he spent the major part of his life.

The process leading to beatification, which is a step prior to achieving sainthood, was begun in 1966. After a special ceremony last month in the church of the Latin Patriarchate, the information was forwarded to the special commission at the Vatican.

A similar procedure preceded the beatification in November of Mariam Baouardy, who was born in 1846 in Ibillin in Galilee and who died 33 years later in Bethlehem.

There has been no local saint from the Holy Land since the Crusades.

Arafat foes want to attend Tunis meet

AMMAN (Reuter). — Four PLO Executive Committee members, who had opposed chairman Yasser Arafat, are seeking his permission to attend a meeting in Tunis, Palestine Liberation Organization sources here said yesterday.

The sources named them as Abdul-Muhsen Abu Meizar, an independent; Ahmed al-Yamani of the Marxist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP); Yasser Abed Rabbo of the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PDFLP), and Mohammed Khalifa of the Syrian-backed Sai'qa.

The sources did not say why the four wanted to attend the meeting, which they had planned to boycott in protest against Arafat's talks with Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak.

Arafat, now in Tunis, is convening the central committee of his Fatah group, the largest PLO faction, to seek support for his policies. He is expected to chair an Executive Committee meeting later.

NIGERIA

(Continued from Page One)

hour intervals yesterday morning, interspersed with music.

Buhari said Nigeria's foreign policy would be dynamic and realistic with Africa continuing to be the centrepiece. He said the country would honour all treaties signed by the previous government.

He said the Supreme Military Council, which will be the top policy-making body in Nigeria, would do its best "to settle genuine payments to which the government is committed."

Nigeria has run up a near $4 billion foreign debt following a more than 50 per cent drop in oil revenues since 1982. Buhari's reference to "genuine" payments could mean that loans taken out by the ousted civilian government, which the military deems questionable, might not be paid.

Buhari promised that hospitals which have been without drugs for months will be provided with supplies immediately. In view of the drought which has affected most of Nigeria, he said food would also be imported to supplement shortages from the last harvest.

Buhari said his government would not tolerate forgery, fraud, embezzlement, misuse or abuse of office, illegal dealings in foreign exchange or smuggling. Corrupt officials and their agents will be "brought to book," he said.

Suspicious package

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Police sappers were summoned to a school in al-Azariya in East Jerusalem after teachers discovered a suspicious package attached to the door of a classroom.

Pupils and staff were evacuated while the sappers demolished the package with a small charge. The package turned out to be harmless.

Four soldiers wounded by stray bullets

KIRYAT SHMONA (Itim). — Four Israel Defence Forces soldiers were wounded yesterday afternoon by a number of rounds that escaped from the automatic rifle of a soldier while they were waiting for a ride at the military hitchhiking station near the Gibor factory here. Two of the soldiers were hurt in the legs. After receiving first aid, they were taken to the Safad Hospital.

The soldier whose rifle went off is being held for questioning by the military police.

Conference today on destroyed communities

LOHAMEI HAGETA'OT (Itim). — A conference of societies of persons who lived in places in Poland destroyed during World War II will meet today in this kibbutz in Western Galilee.

Binyamin Anolik, of the kibbutz secretariat told Itim he expects about 300 persons to attend.

El Al now flies direct from Eilat to Zurich

Jerusalem Post Reporter

El Al yesterday inaugurated a direct flight from Eilat to Zurich. Zurich-bound passengers previously had to change planes at Ben-Gurion Airport.

Yesterday's flight by a Boeing-737 carried vacationers who had come here for Christmas and New Year's.

SCALES. — A fruit and vegetable pedlar in Tel Aviv's Carmel Market, Suda Safian, 24, of Gaza yesterday appeared in the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court on suspicion of using false scales. He was released on IS10,000 bail.

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Polish price hikes may be moderated, leaders indicate

WARSAW (AP). — Poland's leaders have signalled a possible reduction in unpopular price hikes, expected in the new year but now said to be delayed until at least February.

The Politburo said in a weekend communique that the opposition of new official trade unions formed to replace Solidarity and other banned unions would be taken into consideration "in work on a modified concept of price rises" in the new year.

At the same time, an official at the office of Minister of Prices Zdzislaw Krasinski said the increases would be delayed at least until February, in a move that seemed to show official nervousness over public reaction.

The price hikes have evoked grumbling and outright opposition from underground leaders of Solidarity. The chiefs of new official unions formed after Solidarity was outlawed also have objected.

Huge price rises went unopposed in February 1982, the strict, early days of martial law. But in 1980, they sparked nationwide strikes that spawned Solidarity, and scores of workers were killed in riots over price rises in December 1970.

Price hike protests in 1976 forced the then party chief Edward Gierek to roll back the increases, leaving prices frozen from 1970 to 1980.

The government now argues that the rises are needed to match new prices paid farmers for their goods.

The increases range from virtually nothing for cottage cheese and bacon, to a 37 to 50 per cent hike for bread.

Worms on the march

DAR ES SALAAM (Reuter). — Millions of grain-eating worms are on the march in several parts of Tanzania devouring everything in their path, the newspaper *Mzalendo* reported yesterday.

It said the army worms, a type of caterpillar, were munching sorghum, millet and maize crops in central, coastal and northern regions of the country.

TASS: Gromyko-Shultz talks shouldn't raise false hopes

MOSCOW (AP). — The Soviet Union has confirmed that Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko will meet U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz this month, but warned the West that this does not mean a lessening of world tension or warming of relations between the superpowers.

Accusing Washington of "instilling complacency in people," the official news agency TASS late Saturday said that the U.S. government spreads "optimistic statements" designed to fool the Western public that "things are going as if nothing has happened."

This dismissal of the deployment of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles, which TASS called "an extremely dangerous step against the cause of peace," was reaffirmed by the U.S. State Department's "publicity statement" announcing the planned meeting between Shultz and Gromyko in Stockholm on January 18, TASS said.

"A State Department spokesman told a press conference that Washington still hoped for the return of the Russians to the negotiating table," the news agency noted.

"It goes without saying that neither the Stockholm conference nor bilateral contacts can substitute for the Geneva talks, which were disrupted through the fault of the Reagan administration."

Yesterday Soviet Premier Nikolai Tikhonov reiterated in an interview that the Soviet Union would resume the negotiations only if new U.S. nuclear missiles are withdrawn from Western Europe.

Both the TASS commentary and Tikhonov's interview appeared designed to warn the West that it will not easily coax Moscow back to negotiating limits on nuclear weapons in Europe.

In Vienna on November 24, a statement issued in the name of President Yuri Andropov said the Soviet Union would station more missiles on its own soil, in Eastern Europe and off the shores of the U.S. in retaliation for NATO's deployment of the first of 572 cruise and Pershing-2 missiles it plans to install by 1988.

Pershing, cruise missiles operational in Europe today

LONDON (Reuter). — The Western alliance started the New Year yesterday with U.S. Pershing-2 missiles operational in West Germany and slower, radar-eluding Cruise missiles deployed in Britain, defence officials said here.

Deployment will take place by today as scheduled under a five-year plan agreed by NATO in 1979 to modernize its medium-range nuclear arsenal to counter a Soviet buildup of triple-warhead SS-20 missiles, officials in London and Bonn said.

It follows sustained but unsuccessful anti-nuclear demonstrations this year and the failure of U.S.-Soviet talks on limiting intermediate-range nuclear forces in Europe, which ended with a Soviet walkout last month.

A total of 572 U.S. missiles will be based in five countries under the NATO plan, starting with a first wave of nine Pershing-2s in West Germany and 16 cruises in Britain and Italy.

Italian officials said Italy's first cruises would be deployed at their base at Comiso, Sicily, next spring in line with the NATO timetable.

In London last week, women protesters said they have broken into at least five U.S. and British nuclear installations since Christmas, including the base for cruise missiles. They threatened a long-term programme to "destabilize" security.

"We are calling on women everywhere to attack their local bases," said Jane Dennett, 59, one of about 30 women living at a two-year-old "peace camp" outside the U.S. Greenham Common air base 80km west of London. "We want them to cut the fences and destabilize the whole security network," she said. (Reuter, AP)

Revellers welcome New year amid anti-terror security

NEW YORK (AP). — A crowd estimated by police at 70,000 to 250,000 jammed Times Square here on New Year's Eve to say a happy hello to 1984. In America's most famous ritual to mark the passing of another year, the crowd sent up a rousing cheer as an apple-shaped neon-lit ball dropped, second by second, from the top of a flagpole.

About 25,000 partygoers gathered in Washington, D.C.'s new pavilion, a complex of restaurants and shops at the capital's restored 19th century post office. At midnight, a replica of a giant postage stamp illuminated by a spotlight from a helicopter was lowered amid the ringing of bells.

Precautions against terrorism cast a shadow on some of the festivities. New York City officials said more than 1,000 police would be on the streets and on guard against a repeat of last New Year's Eve bombings of police headquarters and other government buildings by the Puerto Rican terror group FALN.

Tight security was also the rule in Palm Springs, California, where President Ronald Reagan and his wife gathered with several millionaire friends, cabinet members and Hollywood celebrities at the home of publisher Walter Annenberg.

A dump truck, a tractor and other large vehicles were parked on Friday in front of the gates of the Annenberg estate to prevent suicide-vehicle bombing attempts.

In London, revellers estimated by the police at 50,000 crowded Trafalgar Square to welcome the new year. A police spokesman at Scotland Yard said the crowd generally was well-behaved.

He said 66 people were arrested, mainly for drunken behaviour, also on charges of theft, carrying weapons and assaulting the police.

Police in the capital were braced for trouble of any kind after an Irish Republican Army bomb exploded outside Harrods department store on December 14, killing six people and injuring 94 others.

A smaller, second bomb — unclaimed by any organization — went off between two Oxford Street stores on the evening of Christmas Day, slightly injuring two window-shoppers.

Police took precautions in Trafalgar Square against a repetition of events there 12 months ago, when two women were crushed to death and 143 other people injured after a pedestrian barrier fell down before a surging crowd.

More than 1,000 police patrolled in and around the square. The famous fountains, a traditional place for frolicking, were dry and boarded up.

In the U.S., the National Safety Council predicted between 250 and 350 people could be killed during the weekend in traffic accidents, many as the result of alcohol-impaired drivers.

But police were on the prowl. In Arizona, Department of Public Safety officers prepared roadblocks known as "sobriety checkpoints."

Young Sikhs in Punjab get guerrilla warfare training

NEW DELHI (AP). — About 250 young Sikhs in Punjab state attended classes in guerrilla warfare and promised to fight to their deaths if police raid their sacred shrine, according to reports from the area yesterday.

"We are preparing volunteers to fight forces which are out to devour Sikhs, Sikh culture and traditions," said Bhai Amrik Singh, a leader of the militant Sikh student group that organized the "advanced training camp."

He spoke to the United News of India inside the Golden Temple complex in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, where the six-day session ended Saturday. It was organized by the All India Sikh Students' Federation.

The group's general secretary, Harminder Singh Sandhu, told UNI that the camp identified the Sikhs' enemies as "the Hindu imperialism that is ruling the country," Communists, the Soviet KGB and "insidious" rival sects.

The trainees, most in their early 20s, were given instruction in guerrilla warfare and lectures on such topics as "extremism and arms," UNI said.

The government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi says the temple complex is used as an arsenal and sanctuary from police, but so far no attempts to raid the shrine have been made.

El Salvador guerrillas kill 41 in attack on army

EL PARAISO (AP). — Leftist guerrillas in El Salvador killed two army colonels and at least 39 other soldiers in the biggest assault on a fixed army position in the history of the war, U.S. and rebel sources said Saturday.

Guerrillas interviewed near the army's 4th infantry brigade showed reporters some of the 135 army troops they claimed they captured during the assault on the brigade at El Paraiso, 58 kilometres north of the capital.

"We consider this a great success," said a rebel commander who identified himself only as Felipe. "This was a modern army base, a gringo-style (Western-style) fortress."

He said 15 guerrillas were killed.

The 4th brigade, built in 1981 with the aid of U.S. military advisers helping the army in its four-year-old struggle against the rebels, is one of six brigade bases in the country.

It was the first time since the war began in October 1979 that one of the 1,200 to 1,500-man brigades had been overrun by the rebels.

Nakasone seeks to revive Japan's voice on world scene

TOKYO (AP). — Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said on Saturday that nuclear disarmament and trade protectionism will be two of the world's most compelling issues of 1984.

Japan's 65-year-old leader, in a New Year's Day news conference, also disclosed that he hopes to tour Europe this year after attending the summit of industrialized nations in London. He also said he would like to visit Oceania and other parts of Asia, including the Middle East, during the year.

Japan, he said, "must make positive contributions toward creating an environment for the reduction of nuclear and conventional arms." The nation must also "take the initiative in promoting free trade."

Nakasone stressed that Japan must continue the aggressive foreign policy that characterized his first 13 months in office.

"Japan has given the world the impression it is a nation of 'economic animals'," he said. "In the future, based on our economic strength, I hope to advance Japan as a nation of peace, politics and culture. I want to elevate the international status of Japan and revive Japan's voice in the international scene."

He said Japan, while maintaining its non-nuclear policies, would work to achieve a more effective self-defence force.

He said there were "many sentimental, emotional arguments" within the country for reducing Japan's defence force. "But these do not look at the grim international situation."

On icy Soviet-Japanese relations he said, "We shouldn't cut off dialogue with our most fearful partner. We neither regard the Soviet Union as an enemy nor hate the Soviets. But certain unfortunate events have made a temporary cooling of relations inevitable."

Soviet-Japanese relations, long strained over a territorial dispute, reached a recent low after Soviet jets shot down a South Korean airliner north of Japan on September 1.

Troops beat demonstrators in Uruguay

MONTEVIDEO (Reuter). — Riot troops and mounted police charged into a crowd demonstrating against Uruguay's 10-year-old military government at the weekend and arrested about 100 people, witnesses said.

Several demonstrators were kicked, punched and hit with truncheons, they said. One young man was beaten by several policemen and then dragged to a building site where an officer kicked his head. Motorists on Montevideo's main avenue blew their horns and neighbours banged saucepans from their balconies in protest during the charge.

The demonstration, in support of the owner of an independent radio station shut down by the government, was staged outside the apartment where he has been on hunger strike. Small demonstrations have been held there every day since La Radio was closed on December 17. But police cordoned off the building last night and charged into demonstrators gathered on nearby street corners.

Radio station owner German Araujo said earlier that he was ending his fast after the government announced that La Radio would be able to resume broadcasting on January 17.

La Radio was shut down for broadcasting the conventions of the country's two largest political parties, the Blanco and Colorado. It was part of a crackdown on the press after a ban on reporting political activity was replaced by a system of prior censorship.

Indira Gandhi retains party presidency

CALCUTTA (AP). — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's ruling Congress Party ended its first plenary session in eight years on Saturday, leaving her as the party's president.

An unofficial resolution proposing election of Rajiv Gandhi, the prime minister's politically powerful son, to succeed her as party president was not moved, a spokesman said.

No reason was given for the decision. Observers interpreted it as a sign that the 66-year-old Gandhi still thinks she is a better person to head the party, although she has been grooming Rajiv, 39, as her political successor.

Meanwhile, several people were injured when police used tear gas and clubs to hold back crowds who rushed to a bridge in the city to get a glimpse of Gandhi and her son when their open jeep drove by.

Pakistan denies plan to base U.S. missiles

ISLAMABAD (AP). — The Pakistani government yesterday denied Soviet claims that Pakistan will permit installation of U.S. Pershing-2 nuclear missiles on its soil.

A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said the allegation made by Radio Moscow on December 25 was "categorically denied."

Sports

Friendly games

By DON GOULD

Maccabi Tel Aviv face Synac Milan today in the final of the World Invitation Club Basketball Championships in Crystal Palace, London.

The Italian team beat the host side Crystal Palace Supersonics 80-77 in a semi-final yesterday, after overcoming Red Star Belgrade 116-98 in a quarter-final game. The stars of the Italian side so far have been Dino Meneghin and D'Antonio. Renzo Bariviera got into trouble in the "friendly" game against Red Star, being sent off for striking Zufer Advija.

An Israel national squad left yesterday to play in a friendly four-nation tournament in Sweden against Sweden, Yugoslavia and Greece.

Rising star

Post Sports Staff

Ohad Weinberg, Israel's young tennis star, is through to the finals of the Under 12 International Junior Tennis Championships at Port Washington.

He scored a crushing 6-4, 6-2 semi-final victory over Marcus Barbosa of Brazil in the semi-final. In the finals he will encounter Ivan Isvanisevio of Yugoslavia.

Gilad Bloom went down in the semi-finals of the 16-and-under division, losing 6-1, 6-2 to fourth-seeded Bruno Cresar of Yugoslavia. Bloom was seeded fifth. He held his service in a 28-point, 17-minute opening game, but after that was outplayed by his opponent.

Thus Israel's hopes of glory from this key junior tournament are now pinned on Weinberg.

49ers beat the Lions

SAN FRANCISCO (AP). — Joe Montana's 14-yard touchdown pass to Freddie Solomon with 1:23 to play vaulted the San Francisco 49ers past the Detroit Lions 24-23 on Saturday and into the National Football Conference championship game.

San Francisco will now play the winner of the Los Angeles Rams-Washington Redskins game for the NFC title on January 8.

Perkis has good tour

By JACK LEON

TEL AVIV. — Israel's No. 2 tennis player Shahar Perkis, 21, has taken sixth place among the 130 starters on the ATP's $50,000 Datsun satellite circuit in South Africa, which ended over the weekend. His success was worth an invaluable nine computer points, lifting his world singles ranking to about 270, representing an overall rise of nearly 200 places up the standings in less than four months.

In the fifth and final event of the five-tournament series held in Cape Town, Perkis was beaten in the singles semi-final of the 64-strong main draw. Earlier, he had finished as runner-up once, and twice he got as far as the quarter-finals.

Olga rides again

MOSCOW (Reuter). — Olga Korbut, the Soviet gymnast who won three gold medals at the 1972 Munich Olympics and gained countless admirers with her daring routines and winning smiles, has taken up horse riding and hopes to start competing in dressage this year.

Komsomolskaya Pravda, the young Communists' daily, reported that Korbut, who retired in 1977, began training on horses after Olympic dressage champion Viktor Ugryumov half-jokingly invited her to join his training group in their home town of Minsk, Soviet Belorussia.

Solo sail on $4.35

LONDON (AP). — Planning to sail around the world roughly along the equator, lone yachtsman Eric Peters set out from London on Saturday with just $4.35 in his pocket and scanty rations in his tiny, barrel-shaped craft.

"I am confident I can do it. There is no danger in this boat. It is self-righting, and, as far as I am concerned, is the safest afloat," the 44-year-old Peters said as he embarked on the Thames River in South London.

The fibreglass sailboat, named "Touisky-Nav" after his children Tony, 16, and Nicola, 12, is just 1.77 metres long.

Peters, from Littlehampton, Sussex, has already sailed across the Atlantic and now plans to go to France and then to the Canary Islands for a refit before crossing the Atlantic.

Reagan beats Arafat in Yugoslavian poll

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP). — U.S. President Ronald Reagan outstripped PLO leader Yasser Arafat to top a list of international personalities attracting most attention from Yugoslav citizens in 1983, according to a poll just published here.

The weekly *Osmica* said Reagan garnered 38.81 per cent of those polled, followed by Arafat with 24.34 per cent. Third was French President Francois Mitterrand with Soviet Leader Yuri Andropov fourth.

The question was: "Which foreign personalities from all walks of life particularly attracted your attention in a positive or negative sense in 1983?"

Soldier who rode with T.E. Lawrence dies

SEATTLE, Washington (AP). — George Trask, one of the few survivors of a British camel corps commanded by the legendary Lawrence of Arabia, has died, family members said on Friday. He was 87.

He died last Sunday of a heart attack in his Bainbridge Island home, his son, Russell, said.

U.S. not helpful to UK during Suez talks

(This is the second and last part of a report on soon-to-be-released British cabinet records. The first part appeared in yesterday's edition.)

By HYAM CORNEY
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

The "negotiations with Egypt" which are referred to when talking about proposed military cooperation with Israel occupied much of the cabinet's time in 1953 (which was, incidentally, Coronation Year). They centred on the future of the British base in the Canal Zone, over which the Egyptian leader, General Neguib, proved extremely difficult. On January 27, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden said at a cabinet meeting that "the attitude of the Egyptian government had become more hostile to the UK." He suggested that "it might have a salutary effect on Neguib" if Britain delayed delivery of some jet planes to Egypt, which had already been agreed.

Egypt wanted Britain to withdraw its troops from the Canal Zone. Britain wanted to maintain a presence there. On July 8, the cabinet decided that any agreement with Egypt should ensure that "in the event of a major war, or aggression, or threat of aggression, against Egypt by an outside power, the base area shall be at the full disposal of both the contracting parties. An aggression or threat of aggression by any Arab state shall be treated as a threat of aggression against Egypt."

Throughout the year, negotiations continued, with Britain conceding a number of points, such as the size of the British military presence and a restriction on British forces wearing military uniforms outside the base.

But to no avail.

On October 2, Eden had to report to the cabinet that Egypt was "making difficulties, even on points on which there had previously seemed a good chance of agreement." One of these points was Egyptian refusal to include in the agreement any reference to freedom of transit through the Suez Canal.

By December 18, Eden was telling his cabinet colleagues that there were "some indications that the Egyptian government might be contemplating a course of action hostile to our interests. This might possibly be the conclusion of a non-aggression pact with the Soviet Union or further attacks upon our forces in the Canal Zone or penal measures against British subjects living in Egypt."

Losing patience, Sir Winston Churchill said at the cabinet meeting of December 29 that "the time had come to bring to a head the defence negotiations with Egypt. Unless the Egyptian government agreed in the very near future to accept our latest proposals, we should declare that after a specified date, these proposals would lapse and we should regard ourselves as free to make our own plans. We should then begin to carry out a vigorous and effective redeployment of our forces in the Middle East."

Throughout these negotiations, Britain was in touch with the Americans. But Washington did not always work together with London, even in those days. Selwyn Lloyd, then minister of state at the Foreign Office, told the cabinet on July 13 that Secretary of State John Foster Dulles "had taken the unfortunate and embarrassing step of obtaining from General Neguib a statement of his position in advance of his discussions with Britain."

Neguib's position, Lloyd reported, was "almost entirely unsatisfactory. It is of utmost importance," he told the cabinet, "that we should not be maneuvered into a position where the U.S. acted as an intermediary between us and Egypt."

As is made clear in the minutes of the September 8 cabinet meeting, there was one aspect of the negotiations with Egypt on which America and Britain differed. While Britain was keen to include some reference to freedom of transit through the Suez Canal, Washington was "particularly sensitive on this issue because of their own policy with regard to the Panama Canal." But as Churchill pointed out, Parliament and the British public as a whole would insist on some reference to the Suez Canal. "The omission of any reference to freedom of transit through the Suez," the prime minister said, "would certainly attract criticism, as it was the popular belief that this was the main purpose for our military base in the Canal Zone."

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Jewish ayes and noes

By HYAM CORNEY / Post London Correspondent



Spencer Batiste (left); Harry Cohen...for and against Israel.

FROM A JEWISH point of view, the House of Commons elected by the British public last June resulted in a number of oddities: more Conservative Jewish MPs than Labour (17 to 11) for the first time this century; a Jewish mother-and-son combination (former minister Sally Oppenheim and her son Philip); an MP who was educated at Britain's only Jewish public school; and a Cohen who is an anti-Zionist.

The Jewish public school graduate rejoiced in the un-Jewish-sounding name of Spencer Batiste. Elected as Conservative MP for the new Yorkshire constituency of Elmet, with a healthy majority of almost 8,000, he was educated from the age of seven up to 18 at Carmel College. Set in beautiful grounds in the Berkshire countryside, on the banks of the River Thames, it is run on Orthodox Jewish lines and has a strong Israeli content. In fact, Batiste told me that for much of his time there he shared a room with an Israeli.

Batiste — he does not know the origin of his name — was born into a typical London Jewish family. He enjoyed his years at Carmel immensely and attributes his academic success — he went to Cambridge, where he graduated in law — to the "very high standard of teaching there."

He believes, too, that his interest in politics took root there — at least that side of a political career which involves public speaking.

He is a great admirer of the-then headmaster (and founder) of Carmel College, the late Rabbi Dr. Kopul Rosen. "He first taught me how important the spoken word was and how to use it." But it was at Cambridge that Batiste's interest in politics was honed, and he became chairman of the University Conservative Association.

Batiste's parents were both born in Britain, but their parents were from Poland. His wife is from Sheffield, where he now lives and practices as a solicitor. He commutes between there and Westminster, where he has a small flat just across the road from parliament.

His main interests in parliament are industrial relations, higher education, and trade and industry, with special reference to small businesses — the subject on which he made his maiden speech.

He has been a member of the Conservative Friends of Israel for a number of years, but has not been to Israel since he was a teenager. Then, accompanied by his parents, the family looked in the telephone directory and found another "Batiste." They contacted him and discovered he was a cousin of his father, to whom he bore a remarkable physical resemblance.

Spencer Batiste describes himself as "a friend of Israel and supportive of it, but not entirely uncritical, especially with regard to the events in the Lebanon over the last 18 months."

Is he a Zionist? "If by Zionist you mean the right of Israel to exist, then yes I am. But if you mean other things, I might have to qualify my answer."

He regards Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher as "very pro-Israel and a friend, though that doesn't mean that she won't speak out when necessary." As for the Conservative Party in general, he believes that what ties so many of its members to support for Israel is the democratic nature of the Jewish state.

"There is an awareness in the party that our allies must be those countries which share our commitment to democracy."

Batiste, who is 39, was selected to fight the June election for the Elmet constitutuency out of 300 applicants. Indeed, he has the makings of a considerable career in the Conservative Party.

IN THE last parliament, there was a Cohen (Stanley) who was not Jewish but who regarded himself — and was regarded by others — as pro-Jewish and pro-Israel. The present House contains a Cohen who *is* Jewish but who regards himself as an anti-Zionist.

Harry Cohen, the Labour MP for the London constituency of Leyton, is the only one of 11 Jewish Labour MPs who was elected for the first time in June. Aged 33, he was born in Hackney into a socialist family — both his parents were active in local politics. His background is "not very Jewish," though he did have a *barmitzva*.

He left school at the age of 16 and continued his education on a part-time basis at evening classes. He has worked full-time for the local council for the past 11 years, specializing in financial matters.

Was it always his ambition to become an MP, I asked him over a cup of coffee in the House of Commons canteen? "If you're in politics," he replied, "you are always interested in promoting your views, and a logical extension of that is to get into parliament and fight for them."

Those views are left-wing. Extreme left-wing? Cohen doesn't believe in rigid labelling, though he is a supporter of Tony Benn, the darling of the far left, who lost his seat at the last election.

Cohen's principal concerns now are to fight the government's cuts in the health service budget — he made his maiden speech on this subject. He is also worried about the discriminatory measures taken against minority groups, as he has a large Asian population in his constituency.

He agreed that his own Jewish background "makes it easier for me to understand the problems of the Asians.

"After all," he says, "the first racist immigration laws were brought into this country at the turn of the century against the Jews. People were blaming the Jews in those days for the country's economic troubles in the way they are blaming the coloured people today. Racism and anti-Semitism — these are the traditional scapegoats for economic problems.

"That's why I have very little time for some Jews who are comfortable in society and who think that they are third behind the coloured and the Irish and don't need to speak out against racism. This is a very dangerous attitude."

What are his views on the Middle East? Cohen has never been to Israel or to any Arab country — though his (non-Jewish) step-daughter is currently in Israel on a kibbutz. He admits that he is "not an expert" on the subject but has clear and controversial views.

"I am not a Zionist because of the way that Zionism has developed and been taken over by right-wing nationalists in Israel. The concept of Greater Israel and expansionism is dangerous and immoral as well as undemocratic.

"I am in favour of an independent Israeli state but also an independent Palestinian state, with agreed boundaries for both and agreed civil rights for minorities in both states."

Asked about his support for the PLO — before the election he was among the signatories of an appeal to the Labour Party to support the "inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination within an independent soveriegn state" and to "recognize the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people" — Cohen replied: "Who represents the Palestinians is for the Palestinians themselves to decide. My view has always been that the PLO represents them. Who else is there?"

Cohen says that he is an anti-Zionist "because of Israel's expansionist policy." As for the concept of a "democratic secular state" in Palestine, he regards it as "an ideal but it is so far off that it's not a practicality. The two-state solution is much more realistic."

Israel's line on the Palestinians, he concluded, is "abhorrent, an attempt to eliminate them, genocide if you like. I can't be a friend of Israel on the basis of such a policy."



Ronald Barnett...'I want to set the record straight.' (Daniel Blatt)

'BOAZ' UNMASKED

By LEA LEVAVI / Jerusalem Post Reporter

BOAZ, one of the prime movers in the mass emigration of Iraqi Jewry to Israel, has revealed his true identity. He is Ronald Barnett, now 62, of Britain. Originally a journalist on the *Daily Express*, he later became an airplane pilot and aviation executive.

"The Iraqis knew my real name, and that I was an executive for a U.S.-based airline," he says. "Thank God, that's all they knew."

There is still much he is not ready to reveal, though he said he hopes the time for a "now it can be told" story is not far off.

He became involved in illegal immigration in 1947, and subsequently helped bring Jews from various parts of the Middle East to Israel. "I am a British Jew. At the appropriate time, I served my country, England. When the time was ripe to help the emerging State of Israel, that was what I wanted to do and felt I had to do. Until now I was known only as Boaz; the British never knew of my role'"

His involvement with the Jewish underground movement in Iraq goes far beyond the mass airlift known as Operation Ali Baba, or Operation Ezra and Nehemiah. However, the airlift is the only operation he feels free to discuss at this time.

By May 1950 when the airlift began, masses of Jews had succeeded in leaving Iraq illegally over the Iranian border. This fact of life, together with the pressure put on the Iraqi government by President Truman and what Barnett chose to call "considerations" offered to Iraqi officials, persuaded the Iraqi government to pass a law allowing Jews to emigrate legally.

"We had to get them out fast, because we were always afraid the Iraqis would change their minds and slam the door shut without warning," Barnett says. Almost 120,000 Jews were flown from Iraq to Israel during the 18 months of Operation Ali Baba. "We were taking out over a 100 passengers on DC4 Skymasters, which normally seated 70 on commercial flights. It broke our hearts, but sometimes we had to jettison some of the passengers' personal belongings, because the plane could not take the weight."

Israel wanted as many immigrants as possible he said, but probably would have preferred that the operation take five or six years so that the country could better absorb the newcomers. "The Iraqis wanted it done quickly, in masses, because they saw every Jew who left as a nail in Israel's coffin. They felt Israel could not feed so many people and would be destroyed by the weight of numbers."

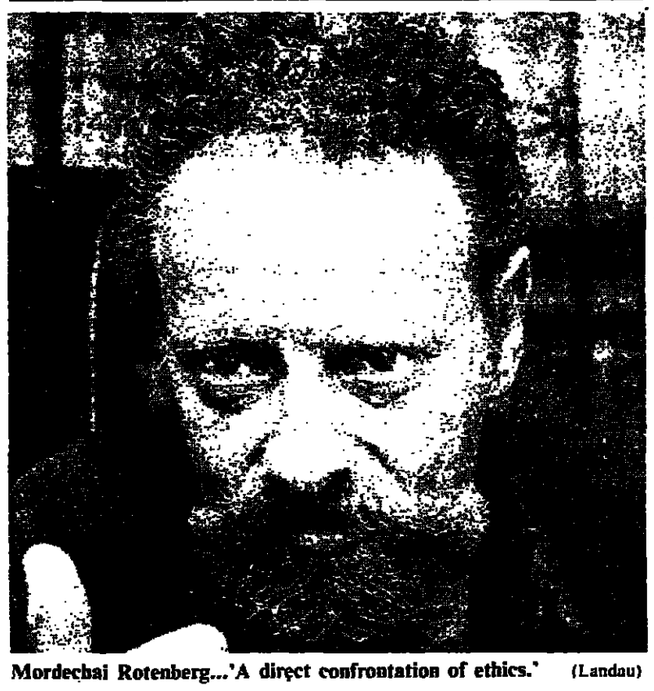
TWO THINGS prompted Barnett to visit Israel at this time, despite recent strokes and other health problems. One was his desire to attend a gathering of Iraqi emigrants held last month. "One of the speakers there was my assistant in those days, for whom I chose the cover name Richard Armstrong. You know him as MK Shlomo Hillel." It is very moving, Barnett says, to see how successful the immigrants from Iraq have been in taking their place as contributing citizens of Israel. "They were amazingly brave back then; when the whole story can be told, it will sound like something out of *A Thousand and One Nights*. It is good to know they have succeeded so well here, and contributed so much to the state."

His second reason for coming had to do with one of those successful immigrants, Minister without Portfolio Mordechai Ben-Porat. "I was very angry when a friend told me that Gen. Matti Peled wrote in some magazine that he has questions about the circumstances surrounding Ben-Porat's escape from Iraq. I do not know this General Peled, but I do know that Ben-Porat is one of the most gallant and brave gentlemen I have ever met, and I met many in those days. I want to set the record straight, and I would be ready to meet with General Peled or anyone else and offer them concrete proof."

Barnett was involved in the negotiations which led to Ben-Porat's release from an Iraqi jail. "We took him to what writers of modern spy stories would call a safe house, and I thought up the plan for his escape. We made, shall we say, 'arrangements' with the appropriate Iraqi officials at the airport — a few cases of whiskey and some other things to make sure everyone looked the other way at the critical moment... The plane taxied to the top of the runway and Ben-Porat climbed up into the back of the aircraft while the engines were turning. I am not a religious man, but there is something in the Bible about the Jews returning to Israel on the wings of an eagle, and I believe someone was smiling down that night on an eagle in the form of an airplane."

'Giving space'

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL / Jerusalem Post Reporter



Mordechai Rotenberg...'A direct confrontation of ethics.' (Landau)

WHEN THOSE OF today's generation speak of "giving space," not in the physical sense but in the sense of allowing others to exist, they haven't invented any new concept, according to Professor Mordechai Rotenberg of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Rotenberg, a sociologist who has written two books on social deviation, *Deviance and Damnation* published two years ago and *Dialogue with Deviance* published this year by the Institute for the Study of Human Issues, points out that giving space is an idea integral to Jewish ethics and is best expressed in the hassidic teaching of contraction *(tsimtsum)*.

According to the hassidim, and the kabbalists, the presence of the Almighty is so great that it fills all. Only by voluntary contraction of the Divine Presence is it possible for the human world to exist. This theory is carried over into social situations, where a person is obliged to contract, in the sense of demanding less in order to allow space for others.

Rotenberg applies the hassidic ethics to the discussion of the subject of assertiveness training that has become so popular in the West. Courses abound that are supposed to teach a person to "stand up for himself," to be more forceful.

"The hassidic ethic is quite contrary to the Western approach of assertiveness training, which is so popular today," says Rotenberg. Western ethics, he maintains, "are based on a model of intrusion with institutionalized exclusion. The concept of 'forced freedom and independence' actually legitimizes social indifference, because it assumes that people have not only an equal right, but an equal ability and obligation, to be independent and to make free choices." This, he says, rules out the role of the voluntarily dependent person, or the one for whom "productivity" is not a goal, making that person a "deviant."

ACCORDING TO Rotenberg, it is these values, so different from "real Jewish values," that account for the practice of excluding all deviant members of the society from our presence, by locking them away in prisons or asylums.

Rotenberg who has been very active in prison reform, explains that an entire structure has developed in Western society with the exclusion by institutionalization of all deviant members of the society. The pity is that Jews have adopted this ethic and have accepted the idea of Judaeo-Christian ethics, when actually there is no such thing. According to Rotenberg, there is a Christian ethic which is static and pessimistic, and a Jewish ethic which is dynamic and optimistic.

In discussing social deviance, Rotenberg points out that the labelling system increases the amount of deviation. Hence, "Joe is quite a thief," or "Joe is a hopeless, lazy bum," or alternatively, "Joe is a perfect gentleman," all place pressure on members of a society. When society has only one label which expresses approval, such as "rich" or "industrious" or "intelligent," then "the probability for the prevalence of deviance will be high," says Rotenberg.

In the Jewish tradition as expressed in Jewish life, on the other hand, the deviant member of the community, was included. "Shmulik the no-good" and "Mendel the thief" were what they were, but they were a part of the community.

This exclusion is strongly represented in the Western practice of shutting away the mentally disturbed, Rotenberg says. Under existing laws, the Ba'al Shem Tov and a number of other great spiritual leaders could be put into an institution. He points out that while many great spiritual teachings have advised man in search of salvation to dispossess himself of his worldly goods, under the law in most Western societies, giving his money away is one reason for putting a person away.

ALL OF THIS, says Rotenberg, is a product of the Christian, not the Jewish ethic. The Jewish ethic is not egoistic or self-assertive but is one of other-centredness and of social contraction. And social contraction in his opinion, is really the only way in which different types of people, be they in personal or political association, can live together peaceably.

Social contraction means withdrawing oneself, that is, decreasing one's personal ego in order to allow others the possibility of existing within the same space. The parent, he explains, quite naturally practises contraction for the sake of the child, gives up certain adult demands in favour of the needs of the child, even plays childish games in order both to give the child what it needs and to enjoy its presence.

This, says Rotenberg, is on the model of the Almighty, who contracts the Divine Presence for the sake of man. The Divine Presence would otherwise overwhelm man just as the total adult would overwhelm the child. But this should also be extended into life outside the parent-child relationship, and space should be made for everyone by the contraction of dominant figures.

"The West has gone all out for assertiveness training," he says, "when what is needed is non-assertiveness training... a de-emphasizing of the role of the self in interpersonal relationships and, as a consequence, in interdenominational, interethnic and international situations."

SITTING IN the well-stocked library of his Rehavia flat, Rotenberg also speaks of another basic difference between Jewish and Western ethics. "There is the whole concept of 'ascent through descent,'" he says.

He explains that while Western thought deals with social deviance through a concept that holds that descent is both undesirable and in immediate need of correction, the Jewish ethic holds that descent, or a period of crisis, is the springboard for development or ascent.

This basic difference in thinking leads, he feels, to the desire to get rid of all deviant persons within the society and to be able to ignore them, since they have "failed" as members of mainstream society.

Rotenberg, himself descended from a long line of hassidic scholars, says that this rules out one of the basic Jewish principles, the optimistic theory of repair *(tikun)*.

The basis of all this, he maintains, is in the mistake of having allowed Jewish ethics to be unequally yoked with Christian ethics in the mislabelled Judaeo-Christian concept.

"We have a situation that began with Moses Mendelssohn. We accepted the idea of emancipation, but the price was very high. In the end, we have a direct confrontation of ethics. While Judaism uses the present to reinterpret the past, Christianity teaches that original sin, subtracted from today, a sort of symbolic death, negates the past."

Smiling, Rotenberg sums up thus: "It's *really very simple*, all *this* question of pessimism and optimism. The Christian says the Messiah has already come. Therefore whatever was supposed to happen has already happened. The Jew is still waiting for the Messiah."

ENTERTAINMENT

TELEVISION

EDUCATIONAL:
School Broadcasts 15.00 Surprise Train 15.25 Touch 15.54 Follow Me – English for Adults 16.00 The Heart (part 18) 16.25 Sumsum Street 17.00 A New Evening — live magazine

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES:
17.30 Different Strokes: Family on Ice 18.00 Cartoons

ARABIC-LANGUAGE programmes:
19.30 News roundup
18.35 Sports
19.27 Programme Trailer
19.30 News

HEBREW PROGRAMMES resume at
20.01 with a news roundup
20.02 Pillar of Fire (part 1)
21.00 Mabat Newsreel
21.30 Are you Being Served?
22.00 This is the Time
22.50 Strangers – British suspense series starring Dan Henderson, Dennis Blanch, Fiona Mollison and Mark McManus: The Flowers of Edinburgh
23.35 News

JORDAN TV (unofficial):
17.30 Cartoons 18.00 French Hour 18.30 JTV 30 Science film 19.00 News in French 19.30 News in Hebrew 20.00 News in Arabic 20.30 Benson 21.10 All For Love 22.00 News in English 22.15 The A-Team

MIDDLE EAST TV:
13.00 Shape-Up 13.30 Insight 14.00 Another Life 14.30 700 Club 15.00 Afternoon Movie 16.30 Spiderman 17.00 Popeye 17.30 Super Book 18.00 Laramie 19.00 Bonanza 20.00 Another Life 20.30 World News Tonight 21.00 Entertainment Special WKRP Cincinnati 21.30 Sports Nite 22.44 700 Club 23.24 News Update

ON THE AIR

Voice of Music

6.02 Musical Clock
7.07 Telemann: Oboe Concerto; Handel: Alcina, overture; Bach: Concerto for Three Pianos; Giuliani: Sonata for Flute and Guitar; Stamitz: Clarinet Concerto; Mozart: Serenade No.10 for 13 Wind Instruments (Berlin Philharmonic); Sibelius: Suite No.2; Mendelssohn: Sextet; *Prokofiev: Violin Concerto in D major* (Boris Belkin, London, Kondrashin); Stravinsky: Symphony in C major (Suisse Romande, Charles Dutoit); Doppler: Hungarian Pastoral Fantasy; Dvorak: Czech Suite, Op.39; Brahms: String Quartet in G major
12.00 An Hour with Guitarist and Lute player Julian Bream — works by Bach, Vivaldi and Villa-Lobos
13.05 Musical Greetings
15.00 The History of Music
15.30 Youth Programme
16.30 The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra — Yitzhak Edel: 3 Songs (Haya Ritov, Yuri Aharonovich); Vivaldi: Concerto for 2 Horns (Neil Bolter, David Dotin, Gary Bertini); Mozart: Violin Concerto in A minor, No.5, K.219 (Henryk Szeryng, Bertini); Prokofiev: Piano Concerto (Yefim Bronfman, Bertini); Chavez: Toccata for Percussions (Juan-Pablo Izquieredo)
18.00 Musica Viva — From the International Composers' Rostrum — Ulrich Gasser, Switzerland: Jesus' Wounds for String Quartet; Gilberto Mendes, Brasil: Longing for the Park-Seaside Hotel, for piano and saxophone; *Wilis Olibreira*: Fantasy-Piece No.2, for Woodwind Quintet; Marlos Novara: Voices 3, for 2 pianos and percussions
19.05 Guided Tour in Music (repeat)
20.00 LITURGICA 1983 — Paul Esswood, countertenor; Barbura Schmutz, organ — works by Bussani, Scheidt, Schuetz, Humphrey, Purcell, Messiaen and Dvorak
22.00 The Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, Giuseppe Sinopoli conducting — Schoenberg: Cello Concerto (after Mennor Schumann: Symphony No.2
23.00 Words and Music
00.10 Choral Music

First Programme

6.03 Programmes for Olim
7.30 Light Classical Music
9.30 Programme in Easy Hebrew
10.05 Encounter — live family and social affairs magazine
11.10 School Broadcasts
11.30 Education for all
12.05 Sephardi songs
13.00 News in English
13.30 News in French
14.05 Children's programmes
15.53 Notes on a New Book
16.05 Documentary (repeat)
17.12 Jewish Ideas
17.20 Everyman's University
18.05 Afternoon Classics
18.47 Bible Reading
19.05 Reflections on the Portion of the Week
19.30 Programmes for Olim
22.05 Talks on *halachic* matters
23.05 Castles in Spain

Second Porgramme

6.12 Gymnastics
6.30 Editorial Review
6.53 Green Light — drivers' corner
7.00 This Morning — news magazine
8.00 First Thing — with Ehud Manor
10.10 All Shades of the Network — morning magazine
12.05 Open Line — news and music
13.00 Midday — news commentary, music
14.10 Matters of Interest — with Gabi Gazit
16.10 Safe Journey
17.10 Economics Magazine
17.30 Of Men and Figures
18.05 *Am Yisrael Hai* — Jewish communities in the Diaspora
18.45 Today in Sport
19.05 Today — radio newsreel
19.30 Law and Justice Magazine
20.05 Cantorial Music
22.05 Folksongs
23.05 Treasure Hunt — radio game

Army

6.06 Morning Sounds
7.07 "707" — with Alex Aviski
8.05 Morning Newsreel
9.05 Right Now — with Michael Handelsaltz
11.05 Israeli Winter — with Eli Yisraeli
13.05 Two Hours
15.05 What's Wrong? — with Erez Tal
16.05 Four in the Afternoon
17.05 Evening Newsreel
18.05 Army and Defence Magazine
19.05 Music Today — music magazine
20.05 Israeli Rock
21.00 Mabat — TV Newsreel
21.35 Israeli songs
22.05 Popular songs
23.05 George Orwell's 1984 (repeat)
00.05 Night Birds — songs, chat

CINEMAS

JERUSALEM 4, 7, 9
Eden: Sweet Revenge; **Edison:** Lone Wolf; **Habima:** Adieu L'Ami 4, 6.45, 9; **Kfir:** Who Will Love My Children?; **Mitchell:** I Love You Carmen 4, 9; **Orion:** Star Chamber; **Orna:** Bambino in Hong Kong; **Ron:** Yol 4, 7, 9.15; **Semadar:** Sophie's Choice 6.45, 9.15; **Binyenei Ha'uma:** To Begin Again 7, 9; **Cinema One:** Manhattan 6.45; Excalibur 8.30; **Cinematheque:** A Special Day 7; Circle of Deceit 9.30 p.m.

TEL AVIV 4.30, 7.15, 9.30
Allenby: Revenge of the Ninja; **Ben-Yehuda:** Lone Wolf Macquade; **Chen 1:** Trading Places 4.30, 7, 9.30; **Chen 2:** Officer and Gentleman 4.30, 7, 9.40; Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp 4.30; **Chen 3:** Blue Thunder 4.30, 7, 9.30; **Chen 4:** Cannery Row 4.30, 7.05, 9.30; **Chen 5:** Psycho II 4.30, 7.05, 9.35; **Cinema One:** Best Little Whorehouse in Texas; **Class:** Coup de Foudre; **Dekel Star Chamber** 7.15, 9.30; **Drive-In:** Fame 9.30; E.T. 7.15; **Esther:** Adieu L'Ami; **Gat:** I Love You Carmen; **Gordon:** Requiem for a Fool (Swen); **Hod:** Baby Love 4.30, 7.30, 9.30; **Lev I:** Monty Python's Meaning of Life 1.30, 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; **Lev II:** Local Hero 1.30, 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; **Limor:** Zorba the Greek 4, 6.45, 9.30; **Maxim:** Looking for Mr. Goodbar; **Mograbi:** The Entity 4.30, 7, 9.30; **Orly:** *Deadly Summer 4.15, 7, 9.30*; **Paris:** Requiem 10, 12, 2, 4, 7.15, 9.30; **Peer:** Mortelle Randonnee; **Shaluf:** Flash Dance; **Studio:** Who Will Love My Children?; **Tchelet:** Merry Christmas Mr. Lawrence; **Tel Aviv Museum:** Muddy River; **Zafon:** To Begin Again; **Beth Hatefutsoth:** L'affiche rouge 8.30; **French Cultural Centre:** Les uns et les autres 9.30

HAIFA 4, 6.45, 9
Amphitheatre: Night of the Juggler; **Armon:** Forced Vengeance; **Atzmon:** Thief; **Toy:** **Chen:** Flash Dance; **Moriah:** Six Weeks 6.45, 9; **Orah:** Max Dugan Returns; **Orion:** Race to Hell 6 nonstop; **Orly:** Jesus Christ Superstar 6.45, 9; **Peer:** Trading Places; **Ron:** Revenge of the Ninja; **Shavit:** Heat and Dust 6.45, 9

RAMAT GAN
Armon: I Love You Carmen 7, 9.30; Love Bug 4; **Lily:** Yol 7.15, 9.30; **Oasis:** Trading Places 4, 7, 9.30; **Ordea:** Deadly Summer 7.15, 9.30; **Ramat Gan:** Jinxed 7.15, 9.15

HERZLIYA
David: Local Hero 7.15, 9.30; **Tiferet:** Married Couples 7.15, 9.15.

HOLON
Migdal: Trading Places 7.15, 9.30; That Darn Cat 4.30; **Savoy:** Lady of the Night 7.15, 9.30; Harper Valley P.T.A. 4.30

WHAT'S ON

Notices in this feature are charged at IS391 per line including VAT, insertion every day costs IS7659 including VAT. per month. Copy accepted at offices of The Jerusalem Post and all recognized advertising agents.

Jerusalem

MUSEUMS
Israel Museum. Opening Exhibition (3 I at 8 p.m.). Yossif Cohain, "Our Town", photographic documentary of Alon Shvut. **Continuing Exhibitions:** Ori Reisman, Paintings; Gabi Klassner, Paintings; Tom Seidmann Freud, illustrator of children's books; Scraps, creating home theatre sets and greeting cards; Memphis Milano, furniture and accessories; David Bomberg in Palestine; Moritz Oppenheim, first Jewish painter; Tip of the Iceberg No 2; Permanent Collection of Judaica, Art, Archaeology and Contemporary Israeli Art. **Rockefeller Museum:** Kadesh Barnea, Judean Kingdom fortress; How to Study the Past (for children, Paley Centre, Closed Saturdays)
Visiting Hours: Main Museum 10-5, Sat 11. *Guided tour in English* 3. Guided tour of Archaeology galleries.
CONDUCTED TOURS
HADASSAH – Guided tour of all installations * Hourly tours at Kiryat Hadassah and Hadassah Mt. Scopus * Information, reservations 02-415333, 02-426271
Hebrew University:
1. Tours in English at 9 and 11 a.m. from Administration Building, Givat Ram Campus. Buses 9 and 28.
2. Mount Scopus tours 11 a.m. from the Brontman Reception Centre, Sherman Building Buses 9 and 28 to last stop. Further details: Tel 02-882819
American Mizrachi Women. Free Morning Tours – 8 Alkalai Street, Jerusalem. Tel. 02-669222

Tel Aviv

MUSEUMS
Tel Aviv Museum. Exhibitions: Pins Collection, Chinese and Japanese Paintings and Prints, Piny Leitersdorf, Israeli fashion designer; Micha Kirshner, photographs, Zvi Goldstein, Structure and Superstructure (Helena Rubinstein Pavilion). Classical Painting in 17th and 18th centuries; Impressionism and Post-Impressionism, Twentieth Century Art, Israeli Art. **Visiting Hours:** Sun.-Thur. 10-10, Fri. closed Sat. 10-2; 7-10, Helena Rubinstein Pavilion; Sun.-Thur. 9-1; 5-9, Fri. closed Sat 10-2
CONDUCTED TOURS
American Mizrachi Women. Free Morning Tours – Tel Aviv, Tel. 220187, 243106
WIZO: To visit our projects call Tel Aviv, 232930; Jerusalem, 226868; Haifa, 89537
PIONEER WOMEN — NA'AMAT. Morning tours. Call for reservations Tel Aviv, 286096.

Haifa

What's On in Haifa, dial 04-640840.

Hoteliers want industry-wide price reductions to boost trade

The Yanks are coming, but not the Europeans

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

While Israel's inflation and the falling value of the pound sterling have increased prices for British tourists in Israel by almost 50 per cent, Spain has lowered its prices for British tourists by six per cent.

This was reported by Rafi Be'eri, economic adviser to Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday. In summarizing the trends in tourism during the past year, Be'eri noted that while tourism from the U.S. had picked up considerably since the slump caused by the war in Lebanon, there had been little such recovery from Europe.

He explained that the traditional market in the U.S. was composed of Jews with emotional ties with Israel and Christian pilgrims, coming to see the Holy Land. In both cases, he said, the market was "flexible," allowing for an increase in prices, while lower prices would not necessarily attract more visitors.

The greater part of the European tourists, on the other hand, come to Israel as a tourist site and resort. If prices were higher than those at other destinations, then the prospective tourist would have no compunctions about changing his plans and going elsewhere. With prices for tourists in Israel set in dollars, Europeans, whose currencies have dropped in relation to the dollar, are finding the country ever more expensive.

Be'eri noted that the hoteliers have agreed to charge Europeans in their own currencies, a step that amounts to a discount of an estimated 20 per cent. But they are willing to do this only as part of an overall package which would include discounts by others in the industry, a reduction of such government levies as landing fees and a massive marketing campaign. The package proposal made by Sharir over a week ago has yet to receive the reply of Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad

As for 1984, Be'eri said that if there was no reduction of prices and fares, combined with a massive sales campaign, the situation would be "very bad." He admitted that during the past year the number of incoming visitors had equalled and even slightly surpassed the pre-war level of 1981. But he added that with an increase of some 4,000 hotel rooms recommended for tourists this year, over the present level of about 28,000, the industry would soon feel the pinch.

Tourism brought in an estimated $1 billion last year, apart from air fares.

Brazil's inflation a record 211 per cent in 1983

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP). — Brazil's inflation was a record 211 per cent in 1983, more than double the 99.7 per cent registered a year ago, the independent Getulio Vargas Foundation announced last week.

The cost of living rose 7.6 per cent in December, led by consumer prices. However, inflation continued its downward trend of recent months, reflecting the effects of limited wage and price controls enacted by the government.

The foundation's figures are accepted as official by the government.



Part of the new board walk at the hotel area near the southern end of the Dead Sea. The scenic paved promenade is one of the Tourism Ministry's projects completed during 1983.

Dollar value of all stocks down 69% during 1983

By MACABEE DEAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The dollar-equivalent of all stocks traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange stood at $5.5 billion on December 31, 1983, a drop of 69 per cent, or $12b. over the entire year, according to a report just published by the Securiteam financial consultancy firm.

"Despite the $750 million raised on the stock market in 1982 and the $220m. in 1983, and the admission of 123 new firms to the exchange, the real value of the market is now $2.6b. (32 per cent) lower than it was on December 31, 1981," Securiteam researchers note. They add that at the end of 1983 the dollar value was only $700m. more than at the end of 1980.

Only three firms made actual dollar gains in 1983, with the most important of them, Elbit, gaining 53 per cent in value, to stand at $135m.

A total of 63 companies out of 258 registered on the exchange lost about 90 per cent of their value in 1983. One of them, Modul Beton, lost 99 per cent, falling in value from $80m. to only $1m.

As for the commercial banks, in the last three months Bank Hapoalim lost $1.3b. of its value, and Leumi fell by $1.2b., while IDB lost $632m.

The value of the different sectors dropped in 1983 as follows: commercial banks 55 per cent, to $3,332b.; mortgage banks down 71 per cent to $190m.; financing institutions, down by 64 per cent, to $99m. Insurance companies slipped by 88 per cent, to $91m., trade and utilities were down 82 per cent, to $141m.; land development companies fell by 86 per cent, to $241m.; industrials were down by 73 per cent, to $871m.; investment companies, down 82 per cent, to $494m.; and petroleum firms fell by 89 per cent, to $24m.

The 16 largest companies on the stock market now are in dollars:

	Dec. 31, 1983	Dec. 31, 1982
Hapoalim	986m.	1,926m.
Leumi	896m.	1,772m.
IDB	463m.	867m.
Discount	353m.	835m.
Mizrahi	257m.	418m.
Elbit	135m.	88m.
Dead Sea	134m.	756m.
Elron	132m.	153m.
IDB Dev.	89m.	418m.
Koor	83m.	296m.
First Int'l	78m.	382m.
Clal	73m.	814m.
Solel Boneh	54m.	475m.
FIBI	99m.	539m.
Teva	32m.	122m.
Electric Corp.	21m.	422m.

Your money & your questions

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN
Post Finance Reporter

QUESTION: I have invested in several savings schemes through my bank. Will the rate of devaluation and the general banking condition affect their net results when they mature several years from now?

ANSWER: All savings schemes are structured so that they must be held to maturity and it is almost impossible to "break" them. Furthermore, the savings schemes which are either linked to the cost-of-living index or the rate of exchange of the shekel vis-a-vis the dollar are as good as the State of Israel. The banks which issue these schemes must invest funds in either government index-linked bonds or in Treasury approved dollar-linked bonds.

If you believe that the Treasury or the Bank of Israel will not default on these obligations, then there is really nothing to worry about. If the opposite is true, then you should not make future plans contingent on the expected valuations of the schemes when they fall due.

QUESTION: I sold bank shares and options on October 24, 1983. What was my approximate dollar value loss compared with valuations at September 30, 1983?

ANSWER: The dollar loss of the bank securities towards the end of October was about 35 per cent.

QUESTION: Does the $3,000 limit on taking money out of the country on a trip have any effect on the funds which I brought from the U.S. and keep in my dollar account?

ANSWER: Every resident going abroad is allowed to take with him $3,000, of which up to $500 may be in cash. New immigrants who maintain *Patah* free dollar accounts, may freely transfer these funds for a period of 20 years from the day they become new immigrants or temporary residents. The right to transfer funds out of the country or, for that matter, the right to transfer funds into your account in Israel from outside the country is in no way connected with your taking a trip abroad.

QUESTION: My son is shortly going to the U.S. for specialized training. He still has rights to buy duty-free goods. Is he limited to taking $3,000 out of the country?

ANSWER: As in the preceding case, if you have free foreign currency rights you may send your son these funds. Even if you did not have freely transferable foreign currency holdings, you could transfer up to $3,000 per year to your son. This is part of the privilege of providing financial assistance to a close relative living outside the country.

QUESTION: Do you think there will be a major devaluation of the shekel in the near future?

ANSWER: The Minister of Finance has clearly stated that it is the Treasury's policy to maintain the rate of devaluation of the shekel in line with the rate of inflation. This policy, insofar as an export-oriented economic programme is concerned, makes a lot of sense and there is no reason to assume that this is about to be changed. Daily devaluations of 0.6-0.9 per cent mean monthly devaluations of 12-18 per cent. This is in keeping with prospects of monthly rates of inflation over the near term.

QUESTION: Which shares on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange performed best in 1983 and which had the worst performance?

ANSWER: Elbit Computers had an annual nominal yield of 412 per cent. Ya'aneh Computers was a close second with a yield of 411 per cent. Modul Cement had a nominal loss of 96 per cent.

QUESTION: Which bank shares had the best performance in 1983?

ANSWER: The North American Bank IS5 shares had a nominal annual advance of 290 per cent.

First Siberian gas pumped into France

MOSCOW (Reuter). — The first supplies of Siberian gas have started pumping through the controversial East-West pipeline to France, Moscow Radio reported yesterday. The broadcast did not say, however, whether delivery had also started to West Germany and Austria, the other main purchasers.

The pipeline was the subject of bitter controversy between Western Europe and the U.S. in 1982, when President Reagan imposed sanctions on the supply of equipment following the declaration of martial law in Poland.

Washington took action against West German, British, French and Italian firms which continued to send in compressors and other pipeline gear, but dropped the sanctions 14 months ago in response to European pressure.

The 4,500km. pipeline is not due to be fully completed until the spring, when work on its 41 compressor stations will be finished.

Paris exchange closes at record high

PARIS (Reuter). — The Paris stock exchange's all-share index closed last week at its highest-ever level, continuing the record-breaking rise which began earlier this year, stock exchange sources said.

The index has risen sharply as 1983 drew to a close. Investors were encouraged to buy shares to take advantage of tax concessions on so-called share savings accounts, which had to be used by the end of the year, the sources said.

The all-share index closed at 167.9, more than 50 per cent higher than at the start of the year and compared to 159.6 at the beginning of this month.

The volume of transactions for the first 11 months of 1983 totalled 290.57 billion francs (34.59b.), a full 53.7 per cent up on the same period last year, they said.

The boom on the stock exchange has also been due to falling French interest and a weakening in the French franc against the dollar.

Stock analysts expect the advance to continue into 1984

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION
Jerusalem District

BEIT SHEMESH LOCAL COUNCIL

Owner-Occupier Construction in Beit Shemesh for Young Couples with Rights

In cooperation with Beit Shemesh Local Council, the Israel Lands Administration announces the allocation of 5 plots for the construction of 16 housing units in Beit Shemesh.

Registration is restricted to young couples, resident in Beit Shemesh, who meet the following criteria:

a. As Beit Shemesh residents, they have lived in Beit Shemesh for a year, prior to registration for one of these plots — as indicated by their identity cards.
b. When registering, they are able to show a rights certificate, showing that they are entitled to assistance as a young couple.

Registration, which will be at the offices of Beit Shemesh Local Council, will open at 9 a.m. tomorrow, Tuesday, January 3, and close at 12 noon on January 20, 1984.

Additional particulars, and a detailed information sheet are available at the offices of Beit Shemesh Local Council.

Israel Lands Administration
Northern District

Menahemiya
Local Council

Ministry of Construction and Housing
Rural Construction Administration
Northern District

Build Your Home in Menahemiya

The Israel Lands Administration, together with the Local Council and the Rural Construction Administration of the Ministry of Construction and Housing, announce the opening of additional registration for the above scheme, under which 15 plots will be allotted for the construction of one-family buildings.

Registration will be held at the Israel Lands Administration office, Industrial Zone, Upper Nazareth, on Sunday — Friday, 8.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m.; on Tuesday 8.30-10.30 a.m. only. Registration will begin on Tuesday, January 3, 1984 at 9 a.m. and end at 12 noon on January 17, 1984.

A detailed prospectus and additional details are available at the above Lands Administration office.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION

Offer of Lease on Plot for Multi-storey Construction with Frontage of Shops — Upper Nazareth — Tender 93/83/NZ

Bids are invited for the lease on a plot in Nazareth, for multi-storey construction, with a frontage of shops.
At the time this tender is advertised, the details of the plot and building possibilities are as follows:

Block	Parcel	Plot	Approx. Area	Total Building Percentage on 3 Floors over Commercial Floor	Minimum Price	Deposit
16507	14	1-3	2,165 sq.m.	100%	IS18,422,514	IS750,000

No development work has been done on the plot. The successful bidder will bear the cost of development work, which must be done in cooperation with Nazareth Municipality and the other authorities concerned.
Details, sample agreements and bid forms are available at our Upper Nazareth office, Industrial Zone, during regular working hours.

Last date for submitting bids: January 16, 1984 (12 noon).

A bid not found in the tenders box when it is opened, whatever the reason, cannot be considered.
No undertaking is given to accept the highest or any bid.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION
Southern District

Offer of Lease on Plot for Commercial Construction in Beersheba — Old City

Tender 91/83/BS

Bids are invited from those interested in signing a development agreement in respect of a plot, the details of which, at the time the tender is published, are as follows:

Block	Parcel	Plot	Approx. Area	Total Building Percentage on 2 Floors	Minimum Price	Deposit
38003	35	5	1,440 sq.m.	120	IS24,633,630	IS1,230,000

Details, sample agreements and bid forms are available at our Beersheba office, Rehov Ben Zvi (over Ulamei Yahalom) during regular working hours.

Last date for submitting bids: January 31, 1984 (12 noon).

A bid not found in the tenders box when it is opened, whatever the reason, cannot be considered.
No undertaking in given to accept the highest or any bid.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION
Central Region

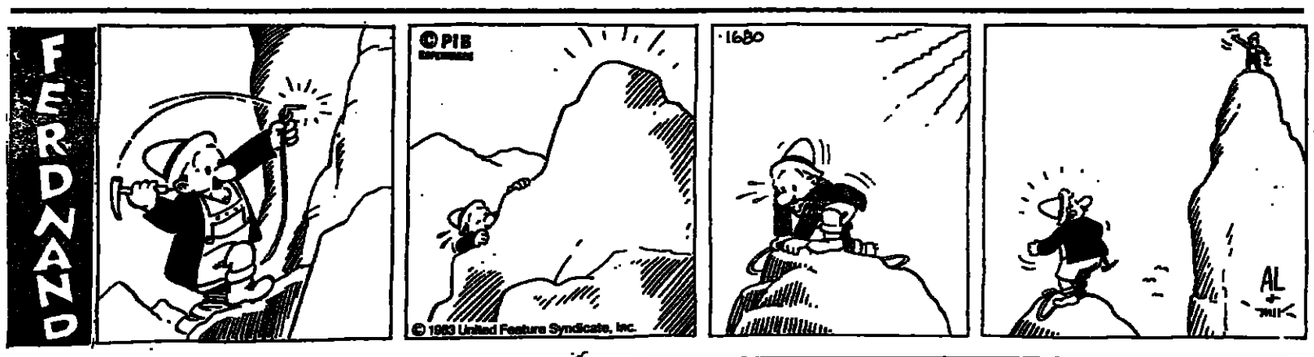
Bids are invited for the lease on a plot for the construction of two housing units in Nes Ziona.
At the time this tender is published, details of the plot and the building possibilities are as follows:

Block	Parcel	Plot	Approx. Area	Minimum Price	Deposit
3837	761	B	1,228 sq.m.	IS6,497,570	IS300,000

The relevant urban construction plan specifies that this area will be used for housing, specifically, that the plot be used for the construction of two housing units with a total built area of 130 sq.m., plus 30% of the built area for the building of a balcony. Cottage style construction must be employed.
Details, sample agreements and bid forms are available at our Tel Aviv area office, 88 Derech Petah Tikva, during regular working hours.

Last date for submitting bids: January 31, 1984 (12 noon).

A bid not found in the tenders box when it is opened, whatever the reason, cannot be considered.
No undertaking is given to accept the highest or any bid.



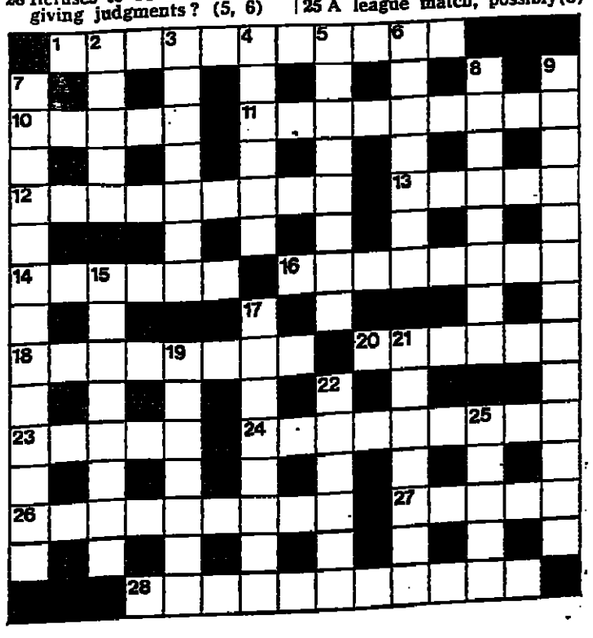
ONE-AND-ONE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Profits easily made by a fruit-preserving concern? (5, 3, 3)
10 It's holding me back for particulars (5)
11 Turns a social occasion into a business discussion? (5, 4)
12 An oval confection present in spring (6, 5)
13 Europe in turmoil lacking nothing but money from the Far East (5)
14 Stress that may betray one's place of origin (6)
16 Establishment that prides itself on its good breeding (4-4)
18 Old Norse chief interrupting my one-man rule (8)
20 She has no right to follow Samuel's mentor (6)
23 Goddess of spring? (5)
24 Handy little device for cleaning finger-plates (4-5)
26 Acting for which overtime money may be claimed? (5, 4)
27 A Scottish boy returning from a foreign country (5)
28 Refuses to be deterred from giving judgments? (5, 6)

DOWN

2 Starts to write in circles (5)
3 Oriental variety of sea bird that's like a gull in appearance (7)
4 Assembly-man in better trim for work? (6)
5 Move down a class at the end of the season (8)
6 Self-confident beast of burden given rude treatment (7)
7 Prepared to give David Steel generous support? (7-6)
8 Militant preacher fellow getting a nil return out (8)
9 A drug-pusher pursued by the highway patrol? (5-8)
15 Offenders who get time to reflect over their misdeeds (8)
17 It's clear it could be a suitable course for beginners (4, 4)
19 Engineers dogged by addle-pated bureaucratic excesses? (3, 4)
21 & 22 Means of access to things that are bound to be borrowed (7, 6)
25 A league match, possibly (5)



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Tel Aviv: Lev Ha'ir, 69 Ehad Ha'am, 613812. Kupat Holim Leumit, 4 Heftman, 268271.
Petah Tikva: Kupat Holim Clalit, Haim Ozer St.
Netanya: Hadassah, 24 Herzl, 22242.
Haifa: Not available. Harman, Modi'in Lane, K. Motzkin, 715136.

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Beersheba 78333	Rehovot 054-51333
Eilat 72333	Rishon LeZion 942333
Hadera 22333	Safed 30333
Holon 803133	Tiberias 20111
Netanya 923333	

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Rape Crisis Centre (24 hours), for help call Tel Aviv, 1 234819, Jerusalem — 810110, and Haifa 88791.

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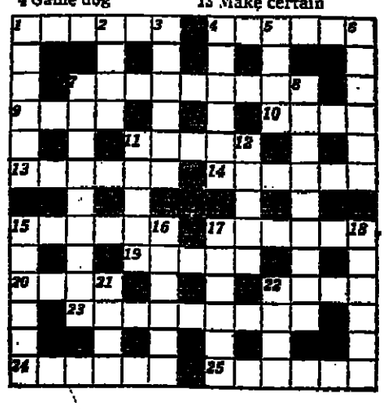
QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

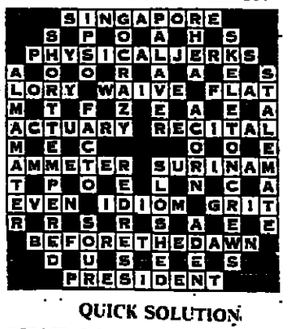
1 Type of burgundy
4 Game dog
7 Perplexed
9 Wharf
10 Prima donna
11 Indignation
13 Make certain
14 Seldom
15 Emblem
17 Defeated
19 Himalayan kingdom
20 Gentle
22 Ceremonial magnificence
23 Learning
24 Silk-hat
25 Keep

DOWN

1 Lobster soup
2 Unsightly
3 Stout
4 Fireman
5 Drew
6 Prayer-beads
7 Exact copy
8 Command
11 Inert gas
12 French composer
15 Apex
16 Editorial
17 Chaff
18 Serviette
21 Let fall
22 Bard



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



QUICK SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Invalid, 5 Eight, 8 Panic, 9 Nearest, 10 Yes please, 12 Hen, 13 Embryo, 14 Occurs, 17 Era, 18 Wednesday, 20 Tuition, 21 Drive, 23 Dwell, 24 Strayed. DOWN: 1 Imply, 2 Van, 3 Locally, 4 Dental, 5 Evade, 6 Greyhound, 7 Tetanus, 11 Submarine, 13 Elected, 15 Cheddar, 16 Adonis, 18 Whirl, 19 Yield, 22 Ivy.

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Economic gloom is not all-pervasive

Diamonds recapture some sparkle

By J. VOET
Special to The Jerusalem Post

A curious situation is developing. Israel is preparing for a rather serious recession. This slowing down of economic activities is being created by a series of government-initiated steps to protect the shrinking foreign currency reserves and to combat inflation. The atmosphere is gloomy.

In diamond circles, however, an optimistic mood prevails. It is believed that the recent severe recession has been conquered and that better times are ahead.

The year 1983 was a turning point for Israel's diamond industry. Three years before, in 1980, exports reached a record $1,400 million. Thereafter, sales dropped sharply. Exports for 1981 totalled only $1,067 million.

This decline continued into 1982, when sales of polished diamonds abroad went down to $905 million, a decline of more than $500 million or 36 per cent in only two years.

In October, 1982, there was a rather hesitant improvement. After January, 1983, exports started to rise again. Every month of 1983, except September, saw a higher sales figure than for the corresponding period in 1982. On the average the increase amounted to over 11 per cent. In this manner, 1983 exports again surpassed the magic figure of $1 billion.

The long recession in the diamond industry is apparently a thing of the past.

It should be noted, however, that during 1983 Ramat Gan was an open market for diamonds. Polished gems can be imported into Israel, free of customs duty. Government statistics show that about $120 million worth of diamonds were brought in. As locally very few pieces of diamond jewelry are sold (purchases by tourists excepted), it must be assumed that the export of over $1 billion was for about 90 per cent "Made in Israel." Also in 1982 polished diamonds were imported, but in smaller quantities. Most probably the increase in the export of diamonds polished in Israel in 1983 was limited to about 5 per cent.

The sharp decline in the average price per carat has also been halted. The price per carat slumped from $600 in 1980, through $500 in 1981, to about $450 in 1982. But for 1983 this price was somewhat higher, at $458 per carat.

The import of roughs increased much more than the export of the polished product. The growth was 37 per cent, according to dollar value, and 29 per cent, carat-wise. The average price of imported diamonds rose from $133 per carat to $143 in 1983. The situation evident in preceding years — sales of too expensive stocks — is a thing of the past. The industry presently has a healthy stock position, with the exception of firms which specialize in big stones.

The total increase is especially due to the growth of the sales to Israel's principal customer: the U.S. Exports to North America increased by nearly one-quarter. The U.S. at present buys about 43 per cent of Israel's total production of polished gems. The sale to so-called transit countries, which buy diamonds from Israel for resale to third countries which do not like to buy directly from Israel, increased moderately, about 5 per cent. This is primarily due to the larger consignments sent to Antwerp, which increased about 11 per cent. The export to Switzerland dropped somewhat. The third transit country, Holland, is no longer important.

Purchases by European customers were disappointing. Western Germany, Britain, France and Italy together buy only one-seventh of the export to the U.S. and Canada. The sale to these countries receded in 1983 by more than 16 per cent. Sales to the Far East also decreased, but to a lesser degree. Exports to Malaysia, Hong Kong and Japan were second to those to the U.S. and Canada, but they were only 60 per cent of the sales to Israel's principal customer. Not too long ago the Far East was on equal basis with the U.S., even once surpassing the U.S. as Israel's most important client.

The fact that the import of roughs increased substantially more than the export of polished gems indicates a more healthy stock position. But the direct share of the Central Selling Organization in this substantially increased import receded from about 33 per cent to just below 30 per cent.

The diamond industry remains an important source of foreign currency for the economy. In 1983 sales abroad netted about $430 million more than paid for the imports of roughs. If one deducts from this amount the $120 million paid for the import of polished goods, the foreign currency profit exceeds $300 million.

The future of the industry looks promising. The protection of the diminishing foreign currency reserves is the No.1 priority at present. This has resulted in the government taking steps to promote exports. The diamond industry, exporter *par excellence*, will be among the beneficiaries of the October devaluation. This will, without a doubt, have a stimulating effect on the 1984 sales.

However, this does not mean there are no serious problems in the future. In the first place, a change in the structure of the industry took place during 1983. Some big enterprises closed their doors. On the other hand, a number of small polishing plants started activities, increasing the total number of workers in the industry. These small enterprises usually do not have their own sales department, relying on the assistance of seasoned exporters. This alteration in the structure can have far-reaching consequences. It is generally assumed that it will improve the industry's competitive position. It is time that this is realized, given the sharp competition of other diamond polishing centres.

Recently a new centre has been added to existing ones — Thailand. In and around Bangkok an effort is made, with the active assistance of the London-based Central Selling Organization, to create a diamond polishing industry. It seems to be concentrating production on smaller and medium-sized gems of good quality. Considering the lower wage level in Thailand, this industry can grow into a dangerous competition for Israel.

There is also new competition from the Philippines, where activities are under way to build up a diamond industry. This is being done with the assistance of an Israeli producer who, it is reported, has closed his enterprise in Israel and shipped his machinery to Manila.

It is difficult to predict what will happen in the future. But the industry is used to adapting to rapidly changing circumstances.

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Estate of

GIZELA EDELMAN deceased

Sale of Apartment

The administrators of the estate of Gizela Edelman invite bids for the acquisition of the rights detailed below, in a two room flat (with kitchen and conveniences) situated on the third floor of a house known as the Journalists' House, Talbieh, 4 Rehov Oliphant, **Jerusalem.**

The rights are as follows:

A sublease granted by Keren Kayemeth Leisrael, the lessees of the Greek Orthodox Patriarch. The house and the rights are registered at the Land Registry — Block 30021, Parcel 92, Jerusalem, Talbieh Quarter Book, Vol. 96, p. 28.

The flat is furnished and equipped. Bids are also invited for the furniture and contents.

The flat can be viewed by arrangement with Z. Henig Adv., Tel. 02-663480, 7 Rehov Ramban, Jerusalem.

Bids must give the price and payment terms offered.
No undertaking is given to accept the highest or any bid.
Any contract will be subject to the approval of the Jerusalem District Court.
Bids must be submitted to the undersigned by January 10, 1984, at the address: Z. Henig and A. Nantel Lawyers, Administrators of the Estate of Gizela Edelman, 7 Rehov Ramban, Jerusalem.

Z. Henig Adv. A. Nantel Adv.
Administrators of the Estate of the late Gizela Edelman

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GREAT BRITAIN	STERLING	1	155.1635	156.7230	153.5900	159.0700
GERMANY	MARK	1	39.4087	39.8048	39.0100	40.4000
FRANCE	FRANC	1	12.8651	12.9945	12.2800	13.1900
HOLLAND	GULDEN	1	35.0543	35.4066	34.7000	35.9400
SWITZERLAND	FRANC	1	49.2903	49.7858	48.7900	50.5300
SWEDEN	KRONA	1	13.3955	13.5302	13.0800	13.7300
NORWAY	KRONE	1	13.9460	14.0862	13.6200	14.3000
DENMARK	KRONE	1	10.8753	10.9847	10.6200	11.1500
FINLAND	MARK	1	18.4579	18.6434	18.0300	18.9200
CANADA	DOLLAR	1	86.0603	86.9253	84.5100	88.2300
AUSTRALIA	DOLLAR	1	96.6046	97.5756	92.1800	99.9300
SOUTH AFRICA	RAND	1	88.1110	88.9966	74.1300	94.1200
BELGIUM	FRANC	10	19.3035	19.4976	—	—
AUSTRIA	SCHILLING	10	55.8059	56.3668	55.2400	57.2100
ITALY	LIRE	1000	64.7726	65.4237	61.2300	66.4000
JAPAN	YEN	1000	463.8027	468.4641	459.1200	475.4800

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Time to make decisions

GARDENER'S CORNER / Walter Frankl

WE HAVE TALKED about roses in this column and announced rose-planting demonstrations in Jerusalem. But there are many other flowering shrubs and trees which you can plant from now until the end of February.

These shrubs and trees add tremendous interest, colour and seasonal change to your garden and, by making a careful choice, you can have something in bloom throughout every season.

Whether you've just moved into a new house and are still surrounded by builder's rubble, or just want to give your garden an overhaul, now's the time to make some decisions. Where do you want summer shade, screening for privacy, or wind protection? Are there any unattractive views you want to block out? Perhaps there's a tree or a perennial shrub you might consider just for its decorative value.

Pay a visit to an established nursery and get sone advice on height, colour and space requirements to avoid root competition. Find out about the flowering season of each plant.

Here are a few suggestions for a colourful, round-the-year display of shrubs and trees, and the nurseryman should be able to help you choose your favourites. But, remember: the first condition for planting is sufficient space.

For flowering in winter: *Grevillea robusta (grevilea hassuna* in Hebrew); *Camellia japonica (kamelia japanit); Poinsettia pulcherrima (halavlav hadur); Senecio mikanioides (savion metapess)* and Kniphofia — *Tritoma grandiflora* (same in Hebrew). There are some species which flower in early summer).

Flowering in early spring: Almond *(Prunus amygdalus, shaked* in Hebrew). Apricot *(Prunus armeniaca, mishmesh); Viburnum tinus (moran hahoresh)* and *Syringa chinensis (lilah sini).* **Late spring and early summer: Untrue jasmine** *(Philadelphus virginalis,* same name in Hebrew): roses of all kinds; fuchsias, *(Nerium oleander (harduff hanahalim);* flowering maple *(Abutilon sinensis, abutilon sini* in Hebrew); *Forsythis suspensa (forsitiya netuya); Veronica spicata,* also called *Hebe (beronika meshubelet).*

Late summer and early autumn: *Hibiscus rosa sinensis (hibiscus sini); Buddleya asiatica (budleya asiatit). Myrtus communis (hadas matsui); Bauhinia grandiflora (bohenia gdolat prahim); Caesalpinia spinosa (kaesalpinia kotzanit); Lantana camara (lantana metzuya);* shasta daisy, marguerite *(Chrysanthemum maximum, hartsit levanat prahim); Rosmarinus officinalis (rosmarin refuee); Lavandula officinalis (asovian refuee); Cotoneaster (haboushit)* and *Pyracantha* (same in Hebrew). The flowers of the last two shrubs are insignificant, but they both produce very decorative red and orange berries, which last for a long period.

Trees and shrubs chosen for their shade, colour and beauty are not only the permanent framework of your garden, but also a traditional symbol and something of a national duty. Get your family and neighbours together on Tu B'shvat (January 19), the New Year for trees in Israel, and plant some trees in your garden, just as our ancestor Abraham did in Beersheba when he immigrated to Eretz Israel.

Magnificent manure. I remember when I was in first grade, the teacher asked, "What can we get from a cow?" "Milk!" many of us answered simultaneously. "Right' said the teacher, "but what can we get from the milk?" "Butter, cheese, cream, yoghurt..." "Right again!" said the teacher, "but what else?"

Thus we learned that a cow gives us meat and bones, and that the bones may be used to produce bone-meal and glue; that the leather made from cowhides may be used for shoes, belts and clothes — even for stuffing furniture.

"And finally," exclaimed the teacher, "manure!" Cow-manure, he told us, is one of the finest plant foods since ancient times. "It makes grapes and apples tastier; your lawn greener; your flowers brighter in colour and more fragrant; wheat and corn richer in grains and, therefore, our bread healthier and better for us."

But here, our teacher's wisdom came to an end. He couldn't have had the faintest notion that, some 70 years later, the Jewish farmers of Kibbutz Zikkim near Ashkelon would be using cow manure for energy!

The nitrogen in the manure is used to produce a butane-gas for cooking and heating. But this is not all. After the extraction of the gas, a sterile, peat-like material emerges. This is just appearing on the market as a planting medium for soilless (hydroponically grown) ornamentals. Mixed with fine tuff hagolan and watered with a nutrient solution, it also serves as an ideal material for raising seedlings or rooting cuttings.

The new material, called botsa, has a neutral pH and sells about 30 per cent cheaper than imported peat. The main supplier in Israel for botsa, tuff hagolan and hydroponics containers in all shapes and sizes is Plastic Magen, 40 Derech Petah Tikva, Tel Aviv, in Haifa: 37 Dereh Ha'atsmaut; Jerusalem: Talpiot Industrial Area, opposite Autocheck.

Dahlias — a new approach. Imported dahlia tubers are again on offer at local florists and seed shops. They've arrived very early this year. December — even with spring-like weather — is no season for planting of dahlia tubers in Israel. The right time is March to April. Dahlias can be reproduced in three ways: planting tubers, by seed or by cuttings. All three will give you good results — but the last is the cheapest.

If you have dahlia tuber stock from last season at hand, you can start your preparations in January. Fill a seed box or a big tin with peat (or botsa) and plunge the tubers flat into the material. Ensure that they are completely healthy and get rid of any parts that show signs of rot. Before inserting them into the germinating containers, dust the tubers with sulphur powder.

Place the boxes in a wind-protected, sunny position and cover with plastic or glass. (The best place to put them is in a greenhouse, but a closed balcony or any other place with a night temperature not lower than 10°C will give good results). The first sprouts will appear after a wait of about 3 to 4 weeks, sometimes earlier.

Keep the medium moist, but do not overwater. When the sprouts become visible, water well each day, and the shoots will soon elongate and give you cuttings that can be separated from the mother tubers for rooting.

Transplant the cuttings into small flowerpots filled with nothing more than equal parts of peat (or botsa) and sand (or vermiculite mixture) and water them daily. The filling material tends to dry out quickly, but it will help to produce good roots in a short time. By then we'll be in February, with a possibility of frost, so the pots should be kept under plastic or glass — especially during bad weather and at night.

In 2 to 3 weeks, the cuttings will develop their own roots and become dahlia plants in their own right. When they have grown to a height of 15 to 20 cm., the cuttings should be finally transplanted, either into large tins filled with rich soil or holes you can prepare beforehand in a sunny position in your garden. Sticks one metre long should be inserted together with the rooted plants (cuttings) to protect the hollow stems, which break easily. The young plants should be regularly tied to the stick at intervals of about 20 cm.

This propagation method — by far the most popular one — is used by professionals to produce millions of dahlia plants each spring. In these expensive times, it can help the amateur to reduce costs.

Weight of circumstances

LAW REPORT / Asher Felix Landau

In the Supreme Court sitting as a Court of Criminal Appeals before Justice Menachem Elon, Justice Moshe Bjeski and Justice Dov Levin in the matter between Eliezer Itzkowitz, appellant, versus the State of Israel, respondent (Cr.A. 669/83).

ON JULY 4, 1982, during disturbances in the town of El-Bira, the municipal offices were stoned and the appellant, a municipal employee, shot a youth called Mussa some 200 metres from the building.

The bullet entered the lower portion of Mussa's back. In an operation for its removal, it was necessary to put stitches in his liver; he was hospitalized for about ten days and later had to undergo a second operation.

The appellant was convicted in the District Court, under sections 334 and 335(1) of the Penal Law of 1977, of unlawfully wounding a person in aggravated circumstances, and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, a year of which was supended. The appellant then appealed to the Supreme Court against the severity of the sentence.

The judgment of the Supreme Court was given by Justice Menachem Elon. According to police evidence, he said, Mussa was a known trouble-maker, whose family had to leave their village because of his and his brother's behaviour. On the day in question, he was one of a group of youths carrying stones. The appellant, suspecting them of having stoned the municipal offices, pursued them in a jeep driven by a municipal driver.

At first he shot in the air, and then at the group. The District Court had rightly dismissed the appellant's plea of self-defence since it had found that he had shot Mussa unlawfully with the object of wounding him while fleeing, while he himself was in no danger.

It was an accepted rule, Justice Elon continued, that an appeal court will not interfere with a sentence unless it is *excessive*, either in severity or leniency. It is not enough that that court itself would have imposed a different sentence. It may also interfere, however, if the lower court has acted on the basis of faulty reasoning or invalid comparisons. That was the position in the present case.

The District Court had relied on a judgment of the Supreme Court, which had held that the court must consider "not only the violent nature of the offence, but the serious influence of such an act on the rule of law in the administered territories, its repercussions on the ability of the State to preserve the security of the population under its care and the propaganda opportunities it creates for its enemies."

In that case the Supreme Court had increased a prison sentence from six months to a year, together with a fine and suspended sentence, imposed upon one of a group of five drunken men who had entered a residential suburb of Hebron, shouted insults at the local Arabs and for no reason whatever fired into one of the houses. The bullet shattered a window, and a child of five was injured from splinters of glass. The Supreme Court described that incident as "hooliganism for its own sake."

THE TWO CASES had nothing in common, and the District Court had erred in comparing them. On the day in question, the local inhabitants had disturbed and harassed Jews — workers and passersby — and Mussa had been seen throwing stones a few hours before the occurrence. The offence in the present case was serious in its violence and consequences; it was not, however, a case of dangerous hooliganism for its own sake, and in the circumstances it was not a crime that would put the State to shame.

The use of firearms, save with proper authority or for self-defence, is strictly forbidden, and the appellant had therefore been rightly convicted and must be punished. But he is not a hooligan. He and others had testified as to their frustration at what they regard as the failure of the authorities to protect them adequately. The appellant himself is often at the mercy of stone-throwers on his way to and from his home in Kiryat Arba, and evidence had been given of contradictory instructions as to how the appellant, and others in his position, should act.

All these factors undoubtedly contributed to his losing his self-control and taking the law into his own hands. He had expressed regret before sentence was passed, and it was clear from his words that his regret was genuine.

The District Court had also failed to give proper weight to the particular personal circumstances of the appellant, Justice Elon said. He was married with five children, had a clean record, was devoted to his home and employment, worked for the community, was respected by his associates and was in poor health. Moreover, his mother was a victim of the Holocaust and would suffer greatly by reason of his imprisonment.

As against all these factors, Justice Elon said, it was also vital in cases such as this to pass a sentence that would deter everyone from violence and ensure the rule of law and order for the benefit of all, equally, irrespective of nationality, religion or race.

In all the circumstances the appeal would be allowed, and the sentence of actual imprisonment imposed on the appellant reduced to six months. The suspended sentence of one year's imprisonment would be confirmed.

Advocate David Rotem appeared for the appellant, and Advocate Uzi Hasson, director of the Fiscal Division of the State Attorney's Office, for the State.

Judgment was given on December 14, 1983.

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FOREIGN CURRENCY
30.12.83
Friday's foreign exchange rates against the Israel Shekel, for U.S. dollar transactions under $3,000 and transactions of other currencies under the equivalent of $500.

	Selling	Buying
US$	108.3096	107.2310
Sterling	156.8865	155.3241
DM	39.7978	39.4014
French FR	13.0102	12.8806
Dutch G	35.3953	35.0428
Swiss FR	49.7403	49.2502
Swedish KR	13.5345	13.3996
Norwegian KR	14.0717	13.9315
Danish KR	10.9959	10.8863
Finnish MK	18.6580	18.4721
Canadian $	87.0201	86.1535
Australian $	97.5328	96.5615
Eand	89.0684	88.1814
Belgian Con (10)	19.4225	19.2280
Belgian Fin (10)	19.1360	18.9454
Austrian SH (10)	56.4112	55.8484
Yen (100)	46.7860	46.3200
Italian Lire (1000)	65.4439	64.7921

GOLD: $381.50/382.30/oz.

INTERBANK SPOT RATES:

US$	1.4515/25	per £
DM	2.7200/20	per $
Swiss FR	2.1770/00	per $
French FE	8.3200/75	per $
Italian Lire	1664.50/50	per $
Dutch G	3.0560/90	per $
Yen	232.00/15	per $
Swedish KR	9.8400/50	per $
Norwegian KR	8.0000/50	per $
Danish KR	7.6925/7025	per $
Belgian Con	55.75/78	per $
Belgian Fin	56.55/65	per $

FORWARD RATES:

	1 mon.	3 mos.	6 mos.
S/£	1.4521/334	1.4540/354	1.4567/572
DM/$	2.7105/130	2.6930/965	2.6682/712
Sw FR/$	2.1842/677	2.1440/478	2.1127/167

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KEEP ISRAEL BEAUTIFUL

LEBANESE ARMY

(Continued from Page One)

stay put in the South until it had obtained or installed satisfactory security arrangements there.

Israel had been "alone" before the second advent of the MNF, the source noted. Indeed, the MNF had been sent in ostensibly against Israel's wishes and there were frequent clashes and much tension in the initial period between the IDF and the Marines. It was only later that Washington had come to perceive its interests and those of Israel in Lebanon as overlapping.

Israel's "only condition" for withdrawing from Lebanon, the senior defence source said, is the security of Galilee. The demands for withdrawal of all foreign forces and for a strong central government in Lebanon are intended to facilitate this primary goal. They are not ends in themselves as far as Israel is concerned.

Similarly, the May 17 agreement between Israel and Lebanon was "a political instrument" to achieve the primary goal of withdrawal.

It had proved useful to the Beirut government as a means of withstanding Syrian pressure, the source noted.

But — this was the implication — Israel would not insist on implementation of every jot and tittle of that agreement if it could ensure security arrangements in South Lebanon and thus facilitate the withdrawal of its troops.

To this end Israel is seeking to build up local Shi'ite militia forces in South Lebanon. In return for the IDF's aid to these militias, they are to police the area and prevent PLO incursions.

No wide-ranging agreement along these lines has been reached yet. But the senior source was hopeful that eventually the IDF and the Shi'ites would find "common interests" that would enable them to work together — and would enable Israel to pull out all or most of its forces from South Lebanon.

The source noted that some of the disparate Shi'ite groups in the South feared their more radical and fundamentalist brethren living under Syrian domination in the Baalbek region to the northeast.

The source dismissed the idea advanced by former premier Yitzhak Rabin (and, in a different form, by former defence minister Ariel Sharon) that UNIFIL be deployed between the Awali and Zaharani Rivers as a buffer force to be bolstered in the South by local militia units.

"It is not we who deploy or direct UNIFIL," *the source observed.* A change in UNIFIL's mandate would require UN Security Council approval — and the Russians would prevent it.

Rabin believes, to the contrary, that the Russians would willingly agree to UNIFIL fulfilling a key peacekeeping role in Lebanon — assuming this were preceded by the withdrawal of the western units comprising the Multi-National Force in Beirut.

HISTADRUT

(Continued from Page One)

the communique issued after yesterday's cabinet meeting.

In a reply to a question, the aide said the labour federation would even agree to some cuts — on condition that the burden was divided justly. "It depends on what sort of sacrifices (the workers) are asked to make. That would be a matter for negotiations," the aide said.

However, the aide insisted the Histadrut would not agree to a wage freeze. Prices may rise despite the efforts to curb inflation and the employers would have a strong argument against raising the cost of living allowance, he explained.

In the envisaged talks, the parties would have to reckon with Mapam's position. The left-wing party is in no position to dictate policy to the Labour Party which has enough votes to dominate the Histadrut alone.

But Mapam's senior representative in the Histadrut, Naftali Ben-Moshe, told *The Post* he did not believe Labour would want to leave its left-wing flank open.

Ben-Moshe said he would consider a government suggestion for an agreement, but he said he was not willing to make any concessions. "This government is close to the end of the road and we are the ones (asked) to give it artifical respiration. The government has no chances of healing the economy, so why should we make sacrifices to help it?" he asked.

Nahum Fasa suggested the Histadrut lead a struggle over the social situation and Nuzhat Katsav recommended the public be called out to demonstrate against cuts in allocations for the poor. Both were then co-opted into a "struggle team" which was told to prepare what Histadrut spokesman Shmuel Soler called "the action" against harming the welfare services.

Ari Rath
Editor and
Managing Director

THE JERUSALEM POST

Erwin Frenkel
Editor

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Tevet 27, 5744 • Rabi-Awwal 28, 1404

Much ado about what?

ISRAELI public expenditures must be cut, drastically and without delay, or the country will tumble straight into economic disaster.

This dire warning was sounded repeatedly last week not by the leaders of the opposition, who might naturally be disposed to take a sombre view of things, but by official spokesmen of the Likud whose unenviable task it is to contend with the consequences of their own profligate policies.

The finance minister, Yigal Cohen-Orgad, appearing on television, suggested that unless the budget were slashed, immediately and significantly, the country would soon lack the money with which to purchase fuel and raw materials abroad. "We have no choice but to cut in all areas, including the most essential," said Mr. Cohen-Orgad, referring specifically to the armed services and to settlement in Judea and Samaria.

The Treasury's new director-general, Emanuel Sharon, speaking on radio, served notice that unless preventive action were taken soon, Israel would find itself unable to obtain foreign loans and pay interest on them.

Friday morning cabinet ministers were told by the governor of the central bank, Moshe Mandelbaum, that the cuts proposed by the finance minister represented the barest minimum necessary at this time. If these were not approved, all hell might break loose.

Yesterday the cabinet formally endorsed Mr. Cohen-Orgad's "economic framework" for the fiscal year 1984/5. But in fact it clipped the finance minister's wings. What emerged is that the cabinet is prepared to do less than the barest minimum. The one billion shekels originally portrayed by the finance minister, in a fine public relations exercise, as the target for his axe, have been scaled down to 600 million. It was only around this much smaller figure that a cabinet consensus shaped up.

Yet even such cuts as Mr. Cohen-Orgad successfully insisted upon, will not result in a lower budget compared with the current one. The reductions envisaged are to apply not to government operations already in the pipeline but to future planned operations. To make sure that the various ministries will not be drained, Mr. Cohen-Orgad was directed to submit his specific budget proposals for the departments to committee.

In addition, Deputy Premier David Levy, anxious about the political implications of any Treasury-authored recession scheme, compelled the Finance Ministry to initiate immediate talks with the Histadrut for a "package deal." This will also eclipse Cohen-Orgad's brave gestures of last week.

And, of course, all talk of freezing settlement was promptly squelched by the Prime Minister who said he would then resign his post.

It is difficult to see, therefore, what is left of the intentions to pare the levels of national expenditure. There will be some cutbacks in government operations, but this may be more than matched by money that will be pumped back into the economy by the public's loans that come due, which the government will have to pay back in the coming year. The Treasury hopes these loans — in savings schemes and index-linked bonds — will again be turned over into more loans by the public. But given the prevailing climate, all that money may well go into consumption. Consequently, the Treasury will have no choice but to print even more money to cover its expenditures.

In sum, what the government seems to be gearing to deliver to the country is a double-barrelled treatment of even greater inflation, with recession and stagnation.

Rumble in Africa

THE MILITARY takeover in Nigeria over the weekend has raised, with renewed forcefulness, the issue of the relationship between democracy and poverty.

The social reconstruction of Nigeria, Africa's most populous and potentially richest country, was facilitated after the civil war of the late 1960s by massive revenues from newfound oil wealth. During the 1970s the military rulers encouraged investment in large-scale development projects. Foreign contractors, including many Israeli firms, were attracted by the opportunities offered by the new Nigerian market, and contributed to the country's economic transformation.

These economic and social gains made possible a smooth transition to civilian rule in 1979.

The leaders of the Second Republic had, however, to confront rising expectations in worsening circumstances. Dwindling oil profits were largely responsible for the reduction of national income by 60 per cent during the past two years alone. Food grew scarce, inflation soared and the foreign debt skyrocketed as the Nigerian government was desperately seeking to renegotiate several billion dollars in short-term loans about to fall due in early 1984.

Social tempers, easily aroused in a country as deeply divided ethnically as Nigeria, flared up due to growing income inequality exacerbated by the lax management of President Shehu Shagari's regime. The recent elections, rife with corruption, fraud and violence, added fuel to an already volatile situation.

The new Federal Military Government no doubt hopes to introduce a measure of efficiency into the chaotic Nigerian economy. But if the soldiers-turned-rulers seriously intend to restore order and maintain the flow of foreign investments, they cannot afford to ignore the strong liberal tradition and the concern for judicial process that have evolved in Nigeria over the years.

Nigeria severed relations with Israel back in 1973, along with most of the other African countries, and it is still to reinstate them. Yet this country, with many, and growing, interests in Nigeria, will watch with sympathy, and with anxiety, that great African land's struggle to reconcile economic development with potential freedom.

POSTSCRIPTS

P.S. A BILL requiring all public elementary and high schools in the U.S. that apply for Federal education funds to provide "equal access" for pupils to engage in religious activities on school premises is being opposed by the American Jewish Committee. The AJC submitted its opinion to a House of Representatives committee recently, calling the proposed law "singularly objectionable."

Especially in elementary schools, it is unlikely that youngsters would initiate religious extra-curricular activities, says the AJC. Any prayer meetings or religious discussions that would take place in the elementary schools almost certainly would occur at the behest of teachers or parents. But this violates the Constitution, since school personnel, as agents of government, are forbidden to sponsor or pronote religious activities in public schools. Thus, says the AJC, strict neutrality regarding religious observance must be the school's position. American Jewish groups have long opposed lightings of Christmas trees and the like in U.S. public schools. *J.S.I.*

Signs and wonders

By JAMIL HAMAD

RECENTLY ONE HEARS people deciphering the situation in the occupied areas — and on the Palestinian front — from some overheard remark or from a dramatic visit between Arab leaders. How people *do look for signs and wonders*, which mean nothing when the ever-present reality limits all parties concerned with apparently insurmountable handicaps.

Those who commented on Yasser Arafat's recent visit to Cairo interpret his meeting with Hosni Mubarak as some sort of radical shift in the conventional PLO stand towards a peaceful, negotiated settlement of the Palestinian issue. American observers see in the visit a sidelong movement towards Palestinian acceptance of the Reagan Plan and towards Egyptian-Saudi-Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation. Naturally, other observers see Arafat's visit to Cairo as a flagrant violation of binding Palestinian resolutions, and they have called for the resignation of the PLO chairman. Any discussion of this visit turns into some sort of survey of those who support Arafat or those who oppose him. But the wrong assumptions have been made, and, consequently, wrong conclusions reached.

Arafat is no Arab potentate who can act singly and unilaterally as Arab heads of state do. Those who think he is, hurt his cause by burdening him and his supporters with unachievable expectations.

If Arafat wants to make a dramatic shift in his policies, he must free himself and his supporters from the charters, resolutions and binding statements that limit and, in fact, fetter him.

The Palestine National Council met in February 1983, and formulated the following resolution on PLO relations with the Arab states, which explicitly states "rejection of all other plans pertaining to the right of the PLO to be the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians by the use of such formulas as 'mandate,' or 'deputization,' or 'partnership in right of representation'."

As for relations with Jordan, the PNC confirmed "the special relationship that links the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples and the necessity to develop these relations for the sake of achieving the permanent national rights of the Palestinians including the right of return, of self-determination and of establishing an independent Palestinian state." The relationship with Jordan should be founded, the PNC noted, "on the fact that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians inside and outside the occupied areas. The PNC envisages the future relationship with Jordan on a confederational basis between two independent states."

On relations with Egypt, the PNC reaffirmed its rejection of the Camp David agreements, and all plans linked with them, such as "autonomy" or "civil administration." It also called on the Executive Committee of the PLO to develop relations with "democratic and popular Egyptian forces that struggle against 'normalization' of relations with the Zionist enemy." Relations with the Egyptian regime should correspond to "its abandonment of the Camp David policy."

Finally, the PNC declared that it rejected the Reagan Plan, which "does not respond positively to the inalienable Palestinian national rights, because it does not respect the right of return, of self-determination, the establishing of an independent Palestinian state, and it ignores the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

HOW THEN is Yasser Arafat to free himself of these restrictions? How would his supporters defend his violations of these resolutions, added by the governing body of the Palestinian Liberation Organization?

Any consensus of support in the West Bank and Gaza is now, and would in future be, meaningless both to Arafat's future and to that of the occupied areas. At best, West Bank and Gazan support of Arafat is a tricky question. For one thing, the 16 local PNC members are not permitted to be party to the shaping of PLO policy. While Israel forbids them to leave the territories for PNC meetings, they are not invited by the PNC to present opinions or suggestions by proxy, or to send comment on local response. Secondly, these local PNC members are not elected representatives. They are all appointed. In fact, their role in any faction is utterly irrelevant.

At the grassroots level, it is clear that the split in the PLO is reflected in the West Bank. True, Arafat holds the support of those who still advocate a political resolution to the Palestinian problem, but that support is dependent on the chairman's fate. If Arafat cannot rally his colleagues in the PNC or the Central Council, West Bank support will simply wither away. On the side of the rebels are those critical of Arafat's decisions, which have implied a slow relinquishing of the military struggle. The rebels, of course, have the support of the more radical organizations — the radical young leftists, the anti-Jordanians — which see Israeli policy in the occupied areas as a sound reason for taking up a stiff, recalcitrant posture. Israel, they maintain, will never relent, except under military pressure and unless the Palestinian resistance movement shows a definite and concerted strength.

If there is hope for any new step towards peace, it is that in the PLO's present disarray, the main parties involved may find it possible to step around and over the rigidly spelled-out restrictions of all the charters, resolutions, and formal statements. And that is a gargantuan "if."

In King Hussein's case, he has already made moves preparatory to calling for a general parliamentary election. Should Arafat fail to move towards Jordan, Amman will set in motion steps for an election among the Palestinians and Jordanians in the East Bank. Hussein may then appoint members for the West Bank in the would-be parliament. This constitutional move could ease Hussein into negotiations; it would also free local Palestinians who support a peaceful settlement from the official movement's strictures.

Hussein, however, will not wait very long for Arafat — no longer than next spring. He can even claim to be restoring a pre-'67 status quo in the matter of West Bank representation, and take advantage of the PNC clause protecting the Jordanian-Palestinian "special relationship." Continued PLO strife will only encourage Hussein; PLO disunity will also stengthen West Bank support for a peaceful and negotiated solution — in coordination with Hussein.

IF ARAFAT himself wants to wash his hands of the PNC and PLO Executive Council resolutions and charters, then he will have to say so explicitly. Constitutionally he is in a very weak position.

Perhaps a year, two years ago, he could have imposed new policies or shaped new formulas. Not now. The key question to Arafat's survival is whether he can make a dramatic, new start *in spite of* these constitutional limitations; such a start — a radical jump over the wall — would decide his future. He will have to dissociate himself from those limitations if he intends to work out an alliance with Mubarak and/or Hussein.

A less desirable alternative would be to simply hand over to Hussein a mandate — representing him and his supporters — to negotiate for a resolution to the Palestinian issue without any formal Palestinian participation.

In short, the process that observers are anticipating is a very complicated and frustrating one. It is also, I might add, an improbable one. The leader of "liberation" is shackled by a ball and chain. Only wishful thinking can dispose of that ball and chain at present. And the Americans have talked themselves into believing that Arafat is about to leap over the wall and move, on his own, towards the Reagan Plan.

The Israelis have also, interestingly enough, convinced themselves of the same thing: they are denouncing Arafat's "signs and wonders" as violently as any Arab state. What are they afraid of?

Sign and wonders are usually illusion, a magician's sleight of hand. To believe they are real is to misunderstand the trick. As apt a media magician as Yasser Arafat knows how to conjure and bewitch his public. And seasoned sorcerer-watchers should know better than to believe in magic.

The writer is a Palestinian journalist.

Brief encounters

By HARRY J. LIPKIN

ISRAELI visitors to the U.S. often encounter *yordim* from the moment they step into a taxi at the airport. On my recent trip I learned that you don't have to be Jewish to be a *yored*. The last two cabs I took out of Washington National Airport were driven by Moslem *yordim*, one from Lebanon, the other from Afghanistan. America is full of *yordim* from all over. As soon as I informed the *yordim* from the Arab world that I was from Israel, I received long, interesting lectures.

The Lebanese Moslem recalled the good old days when there were mosques, churches and synagogues close to one another in Beirut and everybody got along. He blamed outsiders, beginning with the British and the French, for all Lebanon's troubles, and thought that the present situation had become hopeless. He blamed Israel for Sabra and Shatilla, because everyone knew that the Christians would massacre the Palestinians if given the opportunity. He also criticized Israel for not having given anything in return for all that Sadat gave up at Camp David.

The Afghan taxi driver was more interesting. He took me from the airport to the meeting of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jewry. I opened my speech at the meeting with the story of my taxi ride, and suggested that we find more Moslems like him and organize "Moslems for Soviet Jewry."

He immediately told me that Israel was the only strong force preventing the Russians from taking over the Middle East. Sadat, he said, was a very great man. Gaddafi is completely crazy. The people of Afghanistan will never give up the fight against the Russians, and eventually they will win. The Syrians are tools of the Russians. They want to take over Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, anything that they can get. Only Israel is standing up to them.

When I suggested that maybe the Americans might now join in to help stop the Russians, he rejected this completely. He considered the Americans to be completely useless. They get all excited when one or two U.S. Marines are hurt. Thousands of people are being slaughtered every day in Afghanistan, and they don't even want to know about it.

I GOT A different perspective on the American double standard for Middle East slaughter from a Lebanese Christian. All his Jewish friends kept asking him why the Christian world did nothing while their fellow Christians were being massacred in Lebanon, and suddenly woke up when the Israelis moved in and actually saved the Christians. The answer was very simple. All the Christians in the West are Ashkenazim; they don't consider these Orientals to be real Christians at all. You don't have to be Jewish to have a gap between Ashkenazim and Orientals. If anything, he says, the Christians have it worse. He went through a "mixed marriage" with an American Christian and has seen the prejudices at first hand.

He then gave a fascinating lecture on anti-Semitism in the U.S. He has the kind of experience that no Jew can have, because he is not Jewish but everybody thinks he is. He looks so Jewish to the average American goy that airline stewardesses immediately offer him kosher food. When people whom he meets casually seem to be abnormally cool or unfriendly, he suspects anti-Semitism.

Jews, he said, can't do anything about this situation. There is no way to prove that the behaviour is due to anti-Semitism; these people might have upset stomachs, or have just had a fight with their spouses, or treat everybody this way.

But he has a sure-fire test for anti-Semitism. After letting this kind of behaviour go on for a while, he conveniently leaks the information that he is not a Jew at all, but an Arab. If the other person immediately changes drastically and becomes warm and solicitous, he knows he is dealing with an anti-Semite.

And now he has a further test. After a period of warmth, he confesses that he is a Lebanese Christian Arab. Immediately the coolness returns as he is classified as one of those terrible people who are helping the Israelis slaughter the Palestinians.

Hitler, he said, made anti-Semitism no longer respectable and drove it underground. But this deeply rooted disease was not cured, and the people with latent anti-Semitism would have had serious psychological problems if they had not been saved by Zionism. The State of Israel came along just at the right time to allow anti-Semitism to come back into the open again, disguised as legitimate concern for the poor Palestinians.

These anti-Semites naturally gravitate into the circle of Americans who have contact with the Arabs. They become Arabists at universities, take sabbaticals in Arab countries, and work for oil companies or other commercial and industrial firms dealing with the Arab world. This, he says regretfully, hurts the Arabs more than it hurts the Jews. These people give the Arabs a very distorted picture of the U.S. The Arabs believe them and do not face their problems realistically.

IT IS VERY easy, he continued, to pick out these anti-Semites among the friends of the Arabs, because they all show an intense hatred for Sadat. Why should any American hate Sadat? Even if they disapprove strongly of the Camp David initiative, there is no rational excuse for such hatred.

You can't blame anyone for disliking Jews, he added. Most people dislike some ethnic group and may repeat anti-Polish, anti-Mexican or anti-Jewish jokes without any deep hatred. An anti-Semite, as the joke goes, is someone who hates the Jews "more than is absolutely necessary." And these days, any American who hates Sadat more than is absolutely necessary is obviously an anti-Semite. After all, Sadat tried to achieve a peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli problem. If there is real peace, there will no longer be a legitimate cause to hide anti-Semitism. Sadat is therefore the devil who strikes at their innermost psyche.

But he did not think that anti-Semitism in the State Department influences America's Middle East policy. The Arabists in the State Department are not anti-Semites, he said, they are simply scared to death of the Saudis. This is stupid because the proper way to deal with the Saudis is to stand up to them. Alexander Haig had the right idea about the Middle East. Firing him was a great mistake and an invitation to Arafat to make trouble in Beirut. But now the U.S. seems to be coming round to a proper understanding of the real problems.

He himself is very sympathetic to the Arab cause, and feels that the Arabs have lost a great deal by being stupid and unrealistic. His policy for the Arabs is very simple. King Fahd of Saudi Arabia should invite Prime Minister Shamir to a meeting, give him a map and a green pen, and tell him to draw a line on the map where he wants the boundaries of Israel to be. Fahd should then take a red pen and draw a line on the map giving Israel even more than Shamir asked for. He should then say: "We will give you this. But you must agree to peace and no more expansion into Arab territory." If the Arabs had done this in 1948 instead of embarking on all these crazy military adventures, the Arab world would be much better off today. And if they do not do this soon, they will lose even more.

Listening to *yordim* from the Arab world can be a very interesting experience.

The writer is a professor of physics at the Weizmann Institute.

READERS' LETTERS

STOPPING IMMIGRATION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — Harold Rosenthal's letter "Harder for those already here," *The Jerusalem Post* December 22, recommending the cessation of aliya, should not be left without a rebuttal.

When I first arrived in this country in 1926 there were few Jews here (Tel Aviv had a population of 40,000) and the unemployment situation was infinitely worse than it is now. Following Rosenthal's logic aliya should have been stopped right then.

Israel is a country with very few natural resources and its main resource is Jewish brainpower and Jewish manpower. The more this resource is "imported," the richer the country becomes. The nearly miraculous development of this country, the growth of its agriculture, industry, science, culture, arts and military prowess is entirely due to the above mentioned resources.

Even if we are now going through a temporary crisis (although even now the unemployment here is much less severe than in England, the United States and many other countries), this should not detract us from the long view and the wide historic perspective clearly indicating that aliya is the lifeblood of Israel, not to speak of its general vital significance for the Jewish people.

Incidentally, Mr. Rosenthal contradicts himself when speaking about people in the Jewish Agency and the Absorption Ministry — "I'm sure jobs can be found for these people in the productive industries." Apparently, jobs are still available, so if Mr. Rosenthal is laid off, as he fears, he can follow the advice he gave to the Jewish Agency people.

Netanya. *JACOB ROSIN*

TORA FROM WASHINGTON

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — I agree with the sentiment Hilda Kaplis voices in her letter to *The Jerusalem Post*, of December 23 — to wit, the message of the Tora should be the basis of our behaviour, guidelines and goals and not the decadent lifestyles and materialism of the modern western civilization. It is the geography of this letter that saddens me because it was written in Washington, D.C. and not from Israel.

Tel Aviv. *DAVID HEIMOWITZ*

ISRAEL-EGYPT RELATIONS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — During the lengthy negotiations between Egypt and Israel following President Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, many Israelis demanded that "peace should be given a chance."

Others, less optimistic and more realistic, claimed that it was too dangerous to gamble with the nation's security. Some predicted that once Israel surrendered Sinai, Egypt would ignore the peace treaty.

Today, several years later, we are all cleverer. One must be entirely blind to disregard the fact that the Egyptians are really not interested in true, genuine peace relations between our countries and that Israel's hopes have been sabotaged. They wanted Sinai and got it and the peace treaty remains an empty shell.

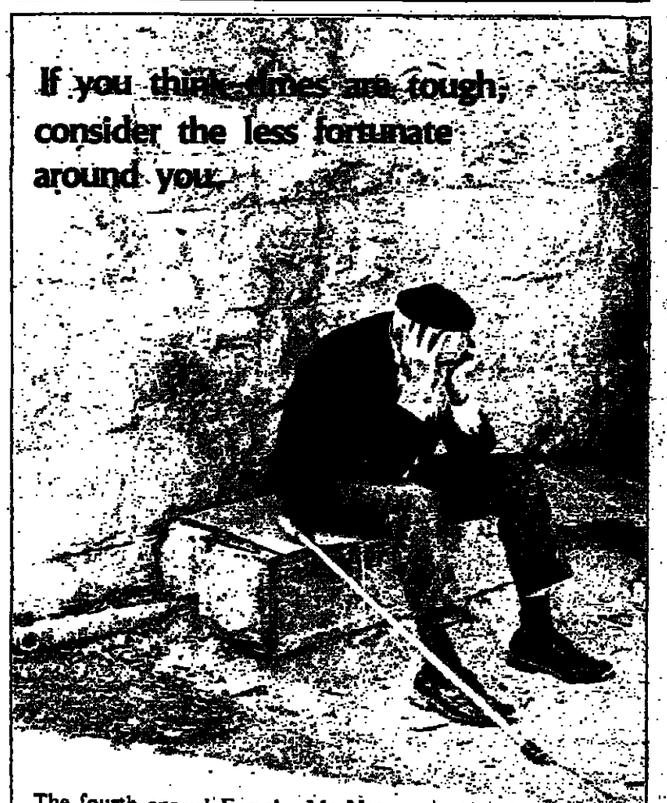
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